

Hafa Adai!

Senate unanimously passes CEDA bill. **PAGE 2**  
Airport Road construction project breaks ground. **PAGE 4**

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75¢

# Saipan Tribune

Education



## PASSING OF THE TORCH

The senior students of Northern Marianas College's School of Education recently marked a major milestone in their educational journey in the SOE's "Passing of the Torch" ceremony last Tuesday, May 18, 2021. The students are photographed here with NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico, leftmost, and NMC School of Education faculty and staff. The graduating SOE students, together with students from other degree programs, will be graduating today, May 21, 2021. The ceremony will be live streamed on NMC's Facebook Page at [facebook.com/NMC.Proa](https://facebook.com/NMC.Proa).

NMC

## AT A GLANCE

As of 7pm, May 20, 2021

### VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population  
Fully Vaccinated: **52%**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	20,948
Fully Vaccinated:	18,873
Moderna	
Initiated:	3,612
Fully Vaccinated:	2,763
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	192

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	8,118	6	8,124
Recovered	7,891	3	7,894
Active	85	6	91
Deaths	139	0	139
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	162,166		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	175	1	176
Traced via Travel Screening	139	1	140
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	26,131*		
Days since last community transmission	64		

\*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

# MVA to stay at site—for now

Together we can make more significant strides for the Marianas

## TOGETHER, WE CAN

By **MIKE SABLAN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Mike Sablan is vice president of Triple J Enterprises, Inc. and chairperson of the Domestic Policy and Recovery Committee of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers. As an advisory council for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, the GCEA's mission is to improve the quality of life in the Marianas for all residents.



During the early months of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers' work, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios encouraged us to work together to transform the

See **TOGETHER** on **Page 4**

By **BEA CABRERA**  
[beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com](mailto:beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com)  
CORRESPONDENT

The Mariana Visitors Authority's office will remain at its current location along Beach Road in San Jose even after its long-term lease contract expired early this month. MVA's current lease agreement is with Pacific International Marianas, represented by Ty Izuka, and they remain in the premises under legal authority until owners of the current property says otherwise.

See **MVA** on **Page 4**

## 1st week of July eyed as target to pass budget

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_deltorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota), who chairs the

Ways and Means Committee in the House of the Representatives, expects the House to pass a balanced budget for

See **JULY** on **Page 4**

## 1 more traveler tests positive for COVID-19

The Northern Marianas saw its number of COVID-19 cases go up to 176 yesterday after one more traveler tested positive for the coronavirus.

See **TRAVELER** on **Page 4**

## COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

## INSIDE



### LOCAL

In celebration of May Tourism Month, Rota students had a beach cleanup last Monday.

**PAGE 9**



### BUSINESS

Fresh Market in Garapan opens to support and sustain the meat industry in the CNMI.

**PAGE 15**



### LIFE & STYLE

Singer Demi Lovato reveals that they identify as nonbinary and are changing their pronoun.

**PAGE 19**



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# Local

## Senate unanimously passes CEDA bill

» **Creation of CEDA was Governor's Council of Economic Advisers' recommendation; bill gets support of Saipan Chamber of Commerce**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Senate unanimously passed on Tuesday a bill that

will transform the Commonwealth Development Authority into the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority, strengthening the tools

and powers of the CNMI government to promote and expand economic development on the islands.

All nine senators voted

“yes” to pass House Bill 22-21, House Draft 1. The legislation will now go to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for his signature.

Senate floor leader Sen. Vinnie F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) moved for the adoption of the committee report on the bill and for its passage. It was seconded. No discussion was made.

When asked for comments later, Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), who is the principal author of the legislation, said yesterday that the CEDA bill is a huge step forward for everyone who lives, works, and visits the Marianas.

“As we work hard to over-

come the challenges of the pandemic, I am focused on working with my colleagues to reinvigorate the economy, seek new revenue, and create more jobs for our people,” Demapan said.

He thanked Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider and members of the Senate for their unanimous support of the bill.

Demapan also thanked the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, CDA, and the Department of Commerce for

supporting the bill throughout the process.

With the CEDA bill now before Torres, Demapan is looking forward to seeing it enacted into law very soon.

The House unanimously passed the bill last March 25.

CDA's current mandate does not include a proactive outreach and promotion of the CNMI as a location for private in-

vestment. Demapan earlier stated that the bill fixes this. He said the creation of CEDA establishes a central authority for the pursuit of the CNMI's economic development priorities and is a step toward modernizing the way in which the CNMI economy grows.

It was the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers that recommended the transformation of CDA into CEDA.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce also touted the bill as “truly a revenue generating legislation” that will provide the tools and authority to what would become CEDA and realize new diversified investments in the Commonwealth.



Demapan



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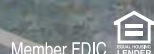


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## IN SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF HOUSE ARPA BILL

### 'Transparency and accountability are non-negotiable'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Saying that transparency and accountability are non-negotiable, Sen. Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) urged his fellow senators to exercise their power as a separate but equal branch of government to ensure that the American Rescue Plan Act funds are not misused and abused.

At a Senate session Tuesday, DeLeon Guerrero expressed her support for the passage of House Bill 22-33 that seeks to give the Legislature appropriation powers over the estimated \$507 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds that are allocated to the CNMI.

She said Super Typhoon Yutu's over \$8 million in overtime payments to exempted employees and the subsequent disallowed reimbursement by the Federal Emergency Management Agency ballooned the CNMI's deficit by \$8 million or 12%.

This, the senator said, should be evident enough why the Senate should pass House Bill 22-33 for transparency and accountability of the American taxpayer's ARPA funds and to start to achieve/maintain structural balance in future budgets.

Later, acting at the recommendation of Senate legal counsel Joe Bermudes, the senators unanimously agreed not to act on H.B. 22-33 at this time. All nine senators

voted to keep the bill in the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, which Sen. Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota) chairs, pending Bermudes' review of the contrasting legal opinions in the House of Representatives' "tie-breaker rule."

DeLeon Guerrero pointed out that tax revenues lost not as a result of COVID-19 but through crafty legislation such as changing the character of the Saipan annual casino license fee of \$15 million to a casino gross receipts tax is another example of masking transparency and accountability.

Such loss, she said, are most likely ineligible under ARPA's restrictions on the uses of these funds, which state that "funds allocated to states cannot be used to directly or indirectly offset tax reductions or delay a tax or tax increase."

"Let's not forget that the CNMI has tax liens in the millions and we dare not try and attempt to make the American taxpayers pay for this with the ARPA funds," the senator said.

DeLeon Guerrero said care should be taken to avoid creating new programs or add-ons to existing programs that require an ongoing financial commitment.

She said ARPA funds are non-recurring so their use should be applied primarily to non-recurring expenditures. "What was just done is the creation of [an] Infrastructure and Recovery Office with the 'Yes I can and I will' attitude, which

goes against ARPA's spending guiding principles," the senator said, referring to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' recent creation of a new office, the Infrastructure and Recovery Program, headed by former Department of Public Lands secretary Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo to streamline the close to \$1 billion worth of recovery and infrastructure projects in the CNMI.

DeLeon Guerrero said ARPA is beyond politics as this is about the American taxpayers' monies, or money that is not generated here in the CNMI. She said it is about the right of the American people to know how their monies are being spent by local governments such as the CNMI.

"It is about our integrity and honesty as a government that is being handed more than half a billion dollars as a rescue made possible by the American taxpayers across the United States of America," the senator said.

She said H.B. 22-33 paves the way for the Senate to create its own Pandemic Response Accountability Committee. "Any prudent man will do and it is the right thing to do for the American people," she said.

## House minority, GCEA head to Rota this weekend

The House of Representatives minority bloc and the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers will be partnering to work on two beautification projects on Rota over the weekend. The two groups will be revitalizing the Sinapalo Youth Center and Sinapalo Basketball Court.

According to minority bloc spokesperson Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), some minority bloc members and staff already went to Rota yesterday,

while others will be flying to Rota today.

Demapan shared that the GCEA had plans to celebrate its first anniversary with a meeting on Rota this weekend, and that he and the minority bloc used the opportunity to partner up with the group for these two off-island projects.


"We're excited to do our first project outside of Saipan and leave an imprint of our work there," said Demapan. (Joshua Santos)



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## Airport Road construction project breaks ground

By JOSHUA SANTOS  
joshua\_santos@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The project to repair the 1.5-mile road going to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport broke ground yesterday, with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres saying the project is the first of many road improvement projects that are in the pipeline for Saipan.

Torres was joined at the project's laydown area by Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Rep. Angel A. Demapan, general manager of contractor Hawaiian Rock Products, and David L. Bush, general manager of project contractor Hawaiian Rock Products, among others, for the groundbreaking ceremony.

The project, which is expected to be completed in January 2022, includes repaving the road with anti-skid pavement, repainting of road markings, and installation of guardrails and permanent traffic signs. The area of work will span from Route



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, seventh from left, breaks ground with Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Rep. Angel Demapan, general manager of contractor Hawaiian Rock Products David Bush, and others during the Route 35 Groundbreaking Ceremony on May 20. The fixing and renovation of 1.5 miles worth of road near the airport is the first of many road improvement projects planned for the island.

JOSHUA SANTOS

31 Chalan Monsignor Guerrero to its intersection with Route 304 Flame Tree Road.

A fraction of the \$1.092 million in federal funding allocated by the Federal Highway Administration to the CNMI was used to fund this project. According to Villagomez, this project

is fully funded by the federal government with "no local match" and "no local funds that are going into this project."

In an interview with Torres after the event, he thanked the families and residents in the Airport Road area for their cooperation and for airing their

concerns, and hoped that DPW and those involved with construction have addressed their concerns. He also thanked Palacios for constantly being in meetings regarding the project to make sure everything was done right and for personally addressing residents' concerns about the project.

"Today's a good day. Tourism's our only industry here, and coming here and fixing our roads is the first

step [in making Saipan] a world-class [tourist] destination," said Torres.

Demapan echoed the governor's sentiments: "This is a long-awaited project, and we're glad to see it finally break ground today. ... This road is very important to us because it's the first and last impression that our visitors see when they arrive at the airport. ... As a prime tourist destination, it's very important for us to make sure we leave those lasting impressions when they get here and when they leave."

Palacios said it was a six-to-eight-month process to get everything together and work out all the kinks with the project plans, and he is happy the road project is now a reality. "There have been challenges on the way to today, but I'm glad that after much meetings [and] looking at the issues and challenges, DPW, the Office of the Governor, and the [Capital Improvement Project Management] office were able to pull this off," he said.

Next up? The Beach Road project, according to Torres.

The event was also attended by staff members from DPW and Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services.

## TOGETHER

From Page 1

Marianas after a video depicting dilapidated tourist and community sites revealed the real and unfortunate conditions of the facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The call drew widespread support from the community. One year later, while also recovering from major catastrophes and the pandemic, through the GCEA's Public Private Partnership initiative, we have made progress in transforming destination sites and village facilities in the Marianas. What were once condemned facilities have become useful again, providing safe, clean, and comfortable spaces to enjoy. Basketball courts are drawing more youth and adults back for pick-up games in the villages. Beach parks and newly painted pavilions are welcoming families and friends to gather in nature.

The transformations continue throughout the Marianas. By the time this column reaches newsstands, the GCEA will be on its way to Rota to kick off its first-anniversary celebration with another exciting PPP project. The council turned one on May 19, the day Gov. Torres signed Executive Order 2020-11 to establish the council and set a vision in motion: formulate economic initiatives and transform Rota, Tinian, and Saipan for our people.

Today, with the help of our Rota partners, the GCEA will repair and repaint the Sinapalo basketball and volleyball courts and spruce up the

Sinapalo Youth Center, giving these facilities much-needed facelifts. The Rota facilities will be among the 55 sites adopted by 53 organizations this past year. We've come a long way since we started with just six groups and 11 locations. Next month, we will head to Tinian to continue the celebration by completing a similar project and cap off the celebrations on Saipan in July.

As a community, we've accomplished great things together this year. The CEDA bill was unanimously passed in the House of Representatives and Senate, moving us a step closer to having a critical tool to aid in economic recovery.

Through the cooperation of key government agencies, we were also able to lift some barriers in the permitting processes, which is crucial in rebuilding our infrastructure, stimulating the economy, and providing job opportunities for our residents. The increase in number of qualified construction firms, from five to 17, would allow the Marianas to capitalize on a billion dollars of federal infrastructure funds and the heightened construction timeline. Moving forward, the Infrastructure and Recovery Office will further expedite this effort by strongly supporting line agencies with adequate staff and premium professional services. Through this office, we look forward to the acceleration of projects through the FEMA, CDBG-DR, EDA, and OIA grants, and potentially another billion dollars or more through the American Rescue Plan Act and Build Back Better plan.

On the tourism side, the GCEA has been working with the Marianas Visitors Authority, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, and other stakeholders in designing the safest tourism resumption plan.

We've also advocated for a universal garbage collection system, in which we are receiving strong community buy-in. More and more people are speaking up about the harmful effects of illegal dumping and the need for a Marianas-wide program. The GCEA will continue to tackle systemic issues such as illegal dumping, permitting, reliable utilities, multi-island travel, and destination branding and transformation, that has been affecting our ability to grow as an economy.

As we commemorate our first anniversary, we have launched our website, [cnmieconomy.com](http://cnmieconomy.com), to feature the transformations taking place and the people behind them. Visit our website for before and after photos, news, and updates about our initiatives to elevate the Marianas into a world-class destination.

It's truly inspiring to have the community's support along this journey. It gives us the confidence to take steps toward bigger goals—to provide a better quality of life for all who call the Marianas home. We may face challenges along the way, but we are certain that TOGETHER, WE CAN make a difference.

For more information, visit the GCEA on Facebook and Instagram (@cnmigov.economy) or contact them at [gceacnmi@gmail.com](mailto:gceacnmi@gmail.com).

## MVA

From Page 1

At the MVA special board meeting last Wednesday, MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo said she received an email from lawyer Robert T. Torres, who represents one of the owners of the property, and mentioned that he is still finalizing the special power of attorney and as long as there are no updates on that, the lease of MVA remains "in status quo."

"What this means is they are extending the lease of Ty Izuka of Pacific International Marianas for another month," Iakopo said. "This also means that they are having Ty continue to manage the property and so we will continue to pay him for the rent. ... We did actually receive a

letter from Ty indicating that he will continue managing the property, including our payments...until May 31st. ... He also said that this will continue until the special power of attorney as mentioned by attorney Torres has been finalized."

Meanwhile, the search for a new MVA office is still ongoing, led by board director Chris Nelson. "There are a number of sites that we have looked at. ... The good news is there are a lot of potential sites but currently, no decision is being made as we are still in the exploratory stage," he said.

MVA's current office space is a part of an expiring long-term lease between the Pangelinan estate and Pacific International Marianas. MVA's original lease was arranged more than 30 years ago and expired early this month.

## TRAVELER

From Page 1

The individual was identified by travel screening and confirmed diagnosis through fifth-day testing last May 19. The affected individual did not report any COVID-19 vaccination.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. said the individual have been moved to the designated isolation area at the Kanoa Resort Alternate Care Site for close monitoring.

The CHCC Communicable Disease Investigation/Inspection team

has already initiated contact tracing for the most immediate contacts of the new confirmed case, including passengers on the same flight.

So far, out of the 176 total COVID-19 cases in the CNMI, CHCC said 140 were identified by travel screening while 36 were local transmissions—11 from community-based tracing and 16 from contact tracing.

As of 7pm on May 18, the CNMI has fully vaccinated 52% of its eligible population. That's a total of 21,648 who have been fully vaccinated and 24,327 getting their first jab. (*Saipan Tribune*)

## JULY

From Page 1

next fiscal year by the first week of July—assuming everything goes as scheduled and as planned.

When asked Saturday for an update on the government's proposed budget for fiscal year 2022, Manglona also disclosed that they will be proposing how the American Recovery Plan Act funds that the CNMI got

should be spent, to include additional requests from agencies.

The committee, which primarily handles the budget process, has already done budget hearings with the municipalities. Manglona said they have almost every government division scheduled for hearings throughout the months of May and June.

He said they are expecting Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to amend his original budget proposal of \$144.84

million and the governor has until July 1 to report that to the Legislature. "Right now, we are just going through volume one and four with all the agencies. Keep in mind that volume four is to supplement the shortfall of volume one to meet fiscal year 2019 levels," he pointed out.

Manglona said what they're getting from these agencies are whether the current budget proposal is sufficient and if they need additional funds.

"So, that's where we're at with the

budget. We will wait to see if we get anything by July 1," he said.

So far, Manglona said, both Rota and Tinian mayors pretty much expressed their support for the governor's proposal for their municipalities. They do have additional requests, he said, but mostly for other needs such as equipment and infrastructure. "And so that's something that the committee will take into consideration at this time," Manglona said.

Last Tuesday, the committee also conducted a hearing with the Saipan Mayor's Office and Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, and that both asked for additional funds.

Last April, Torres submitted a proposed budget that identifies a gross budget of \$144.84 million, with only over \$98 million left for appropriation after deducting debt service payments and NMI Settlement Fund obligations.



## 500 Sails to launch its newest canoe, *Auntie Oba*, on Sunday

Non-profit organization 500 Sails is inviting the public to join them this Sunday for the launching of its newest canoe named *Jacoba Seman*, which is also fondly referred to as *Auntie Oba*.

The launch will be done at 10am this Sunday at the Guma Sakman in Susupe and the canoe will be giving rides and sailing until 2pm.

Watch for the bright yellow sail to be added to the Saipan lagoon this Sunday. *Auntie Oba*—a loving nickname for *Jacoba Seman*—will be the fifth proa (sailing canoe) housed at the Guma Sakman that is part of the 500 Sails programs for the community. She joins *Neni*, *Richard Seman*, *Anâguan*, and *Dee Dee* for both the Sunday Sails program and the more formal Lalâyak (sailing classes). She was built using the “Anson Drawing” of a Chamorro sakman that was made in 1742 on Tinian when an English ship, the *Centurion*, was under repairs for several months.

500 Sails continues to build traditional Chamorro canoes using that drawing with mod-

ern materials, which are more available than big trees that provide food.

“We are trying to get more people in and on the water as quickly as possible as part of our mission to revive, promote, and preserve the maritime cultural traditions of the Mariana Islands through community engagement in canoe culture activities and values,” said the group in a news release yesterday. “With the generous help of Carolinian master navigators Mario Benito and Cecilio Raiukiulipiy and their families, sailing programs have been developed and the building of canoes has intensified.”

*Auntie Oba*’s launch will open this Sunday’s Sunday Sails activities at 10am. Every Sunday from 10am-2pm, free canoe rides are given to the community as well as an introduction to sailing these canoes. A potluck barbecue is also part of the regular family-friendly activities.

500 Sails is grateful to all the hands and hearts that have brought *Auntie Oba* to life, es-

pecially to partner Indigenous Affairs Office for housing us in the 500 Sails Boatyard and

the Guma Sakman.

For more information: email [info@500sails.org](mailto:info@500sails.org).

org, follow 500 Sails at <https://www.facebook.com/500SailsDolphinClub>

Saipan, or call 500 Sails co-founder Emma Perez at 670-285-4268. (PR)

## MHS student, 4 others named Ifit scholars

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Amy Soliman of Marianas High School on Saipan has been named one of Bank of Guam’s Class of 2021 Ifit scholars, joining four others in the region who were also named iFit scholars as the bank celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> year of the iFit Scholarship Program.

The other recipients are Marina Babauta of the John F. Kennedy in Guam; Gabrina Garangmau of the Yap Catholic High School in Yap; Kris-

tin Tolentino of the Academy of Our Lady of Guam; and Olivia Wen of the St. John’s School in Guam.

“This group of scholars is a uniquely challenged one,

given they have been educated in their final high school years in a predominantly online manner. The skills they have learned, their agility in adapting and their steadfast perseverance will serve them well as they take the

next step in their adult life,” said Bank of Guam president and chief executive officer Joaquin P.L.G. Cook. “On behalf of the Bank of Guam family, we are deeply proud of you and wish you every success.” (PR)



Soliman



Garangmau



Tolentino



Babauta



Wen

## 386 UOG students graduating on Sun.

The University of Guam will confer degrees to a record-breaking 386 graduates at its Fañomnâkan 2021 Commencement Ceremony at 6:30pm this Sunday.

The ceremony, to be held on the field of Paseo Stadium in Hagåtña, will be the first in-person commencement that the university has held since December 2019. The graduates have completed their degrees with more than a year of online learning since the pandemic struck in March 2020.

Should weather not permit, the commencement ceremony will be rescheduled to a later date.

The ceremony will include a keynote speech by UOG alumnus and local executive, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Gener F. Deliquina.

“When you earn a degree, you also take on a larger responsibility of being a leader in the community and actively working toward the common good, and Gener is a perfect example of that,” said UOG president Thomas W. Krise. “We hope all our graduates and the community as a whole will be inspired by his story.”

Having earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Guam in 1992, Deliquina—now CEO of Coast360 Federal Credit Union—has since built a solid career in Guam’s financial industry while working to enrich the community through civic

leadership and corporate sponsorship of various nonprofits and community organizations.

Having first gained experience as an accountant and accounting supervisor for the Guam Department of Administration and Bureau of Budget and Management Research, he then became a Certified Public Accountant in 2004 and assumed the role of chief financial officer for the Government of Guam Employees Federal Credit Union, which later became Coast360. He became the CEO of the credit union in 2014.

Deliquina is also the founder and director of Fusion Dance Company, a professional dance studio that trains students as young as 4. The students perform locally, compete internationally, and fundraise and volunteer to benefit children’s organizations, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Erica’s House, and the Guam Special Olympics.

Deliquina has served on the boards of the Guam Humanities Council and the Association of Government Accountants and currently serves as treasurer of the Guam Gymnastics Federation, which, as part of the Guam National Olympic Committee, coaches and mentors aspiring Olympic athletes to represent Guam.

He was recognized in 2018 as a UOG Distinguished Alumni of the university’s School of Business and Public Administration. (PR)

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# Facing off in *Zero2Hero*

When Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club reopens Regal Cinemas Theaters today with its next production, *Zero2Hero*, the movie will feature two characters, Re'ha and Roze, who face off over several things that many teenage girls fight over, including a boy. Taking on these roles are Jill Mallari, who plays Re'ha, and Aleia Santos, who plays Roze.

Playing the roles has been therapeutic for both actors. Mallari, a junior student, found a lot in common with her character. "When I first

read the script, I thought Re'ha was a lot like me, so it's helped me deal with similar issues in my life." For senior student Santos, playing Roze "has been such a wild but also wonderful experience." Like Mallari, Santos sees a lot of herself in her character. "My favorite part about playing this role is it's really helping me understand why people are the way they are, especially when it comes to stressful situations."

While Mallari is a veteran performer who has been active in the Theatre Club and the

National Speech and Debate Association, this is Santos' first time performing. Despite the challenges of acting for the first time, Santos has enjoyed the process. "Honestly, I've just been having a lot of fun, working with my classmates, upperclassmen, and others," she said. "I've learned so much about all the effort it takes to make a really great production and I'm grateful for the family that we've become."

Despite her experience in the performing arts, Mallari pushed herself to grow with



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Behind the scenes as rising Junior, Jill Mallari, left plays Re'ha and Aleia Santos plays Roze in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club's movie, *Zero2Hero*, which will reopen Hollywood Theaters today, May 21.

this new role. "Unlike theatre, which requires a bit of melodrama, film requires natural acting that has been a weird but interesting adjustment," she said. "It was kind of hard, but it definitely challenged me to improve as an aspiring actress."

As for the story, Mallari and Santos appreciate that the movie connects to the first movie, *Zero to Hero*, while also charting forward with a new dynamic. The first movie, starring Kevin Bautista and Victor Cabrera, was released 10 years ago and the current movie serves as a sequel to that movie.

As for the message of the movie, Santos and Mallari agree that it is something everyone should watch and learn from. Referring to the teacher character in the movie, Aleia said, "Like Mr. Prospero says: All really good points, but it's never that simple. There's something for everyone in this movie."

*Zero2Hero* is directed by Jedric Villar and was written by school president and the director of the first movie, Galvin Deleon Guerrero, along with Theatre Club AlumKnight Justin Ocampo.

*Zero2Hero* will have two screenings at Regal Cinemas today, May 21, one at 6pm and the other at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at Herman's Modern Bakery, Java Joe's, Kagman Mobil, Naked Fish, Shell Puerto Rico, Shirley's Susupe, Tribe Marianas, and the MCS Business Office. To comply with COVID-19 Mitigation Guidelines, tickets are limited and available only on a first-come, first-served basis. (PR)

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\*Early Head Start is currently only offered on Saipan.

about

# 12

## NESTING turtles visit the CNMI annually to lay their eggs.

# 10

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## July 6 launch aimed for Mental Health Court



Associate Justice John A. Manglona talks about the Judiciary's proposed Mental Health Court at the Law Week Proclamation Ceremony last Friday at the Guma' Hustisia. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In his opening remarks during the Law Week Proclamation at the Guma Hustisia last May 14, Supreme Court Associate Justice John A. Manglona shared updates on the formation of the Mental Health Court that was initially announced to the public during the CNMI Drug Court Month proclamation on May 6.

"The Judiciary aims to activate [the] Mental Health Docket in July. The Supreme Court is currently reviewing the proposed policy and procedures, and our Working Group meets regularly in an effort to make the live date of

July 6 possible," said Manglona last Friday.

Also according to Manglona, as per a May 20 update the Mental Health Court will be handled by Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja. Manglona also mentioned that Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio and Drug Court manager Edward Diaz were "heavily involved" in drafting the policy and procedures manual for the Mental Health Court, and will assist in setting up its staffing requirements.

Manglona shared that "coordination is ongoing" with Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Esther Muna and

the Community Guidance Center, and that, similar to the Drug Court, the Office of the Attorney General, the Public Defender's Office, and other agencies will be involved with the program.

Funding for the behavioral health services in the Judiciary's treatment courts will be coming from allocated resources granted to the Judiciary via the American Rescue Plan Act.

"More information on this important undertaking will be provided as we draw closer to Mental Health Court's activation date," said Manglona. *(Joshua Santos)*

May your dreams take you to the  
corners of your smiles,  
to the highest of your hopes,  
to the windows of many opportunities  
and to the most special places and  
experiences your heart has ever known.

FROM THE OFFICE OF  
CONGRESSMAN  
IVAN A. BLANCO



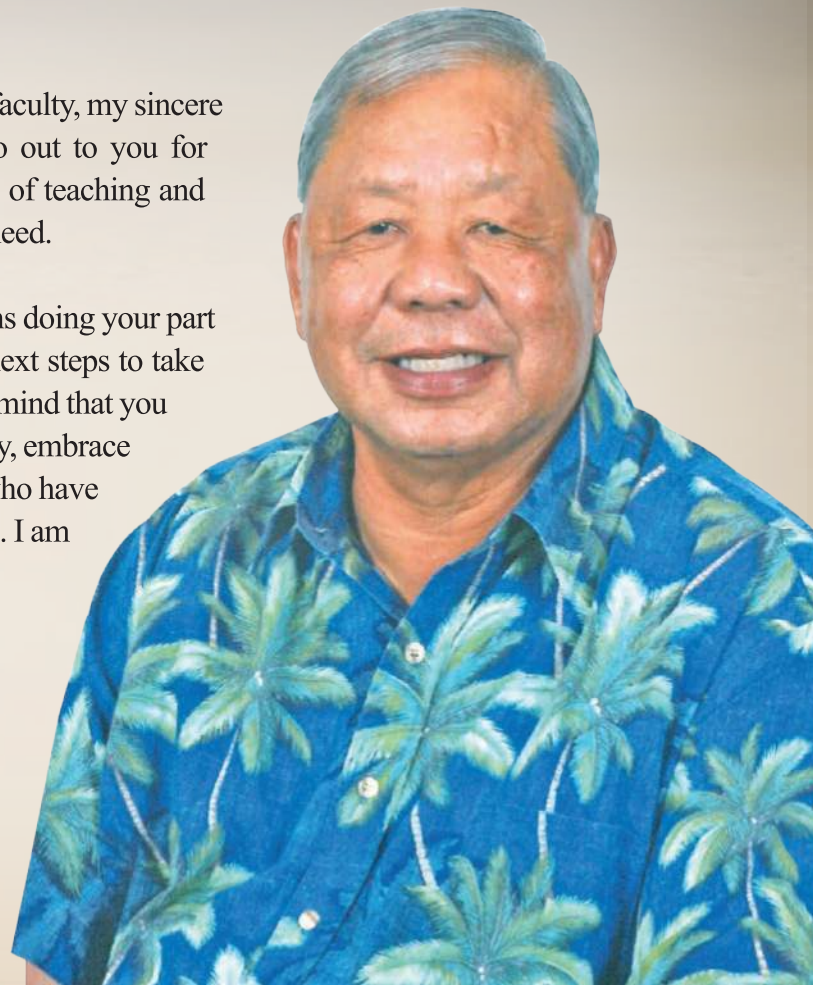
To all our graduating students of 2021 in Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and outside the Commonwealth, I would like to extend my congratulations on your academic success. Despite the challenges you faced from the Covid-19 restrictions, your perseverance and determination did not let anything stand in the way from achieving your goals.

To all parents, school officials, and faculty, my sincere appreciation and congratulations go out to you for doing your best in finding new ways of teaching and providing the education our students need.

Many of you have spent the past few months doing your part as a diligent scholar. Now as you evaluate the next steps to take you beyond your imaginations, apply what you have learned in school and always keep in mind that you have made it this far and no one can take away your accomplishments. On your next journey, embrace your challenge, believe in yourself, and be ready for anything. Do not forget about those who have sacrificed so much to show you the way. Always thank your parents, siblings, and teachers. I am sure they share the same happiness that you are now enjoying. I am happy for you all.

*Congratulations to the Graduates of 2021*  
and good luck on your future endeavor!

**David M. Apatang**  
Mayor of Saipan & Staff





**NEW GRADUATE**

Congratulations to Marc Christian Artillaga Venus, who is graduating today from the Northern Marianas College with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management (Accounting Emphasis). Greetings come from Abner and Cristy Venus, Jul, and James.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Congratulations to Phi Theta Kappa member Tianna Thalia Borja Villagomez, who is graduating today from the Northern Marianas College with magna cum laude honors. She's receiving her Associate of Arts degree in Education, and will be graduating with her Bachelor of Science degree with a concentration in Education in 2022. "Life has been full of blessings because of you, precious Nani. Now that you have transformed into a young successful woman, may the sky be the limit. You have made us all proud and know we will support you all the way. Congratulations on your graduation!" From the Borja and Villagomez families.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT**

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
Happy 12th birthday to Zayden Nekaifes. There are a lot of wonderful things that come in twelves—a dozen donuts, a bouquet of roses, the number of months in a year, the 12 days of Christmas and, of course, the 12-year-old you. Wishing much love and special wishes. From Mom, Paul, and siblings.

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**AGENDA****\*\*\* May 27, 2021 \*\*\***

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's 2nd Floor Main Conference Room at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan. However, pursuant to Governor Torres' Executive Orders and Directives on the ongoing threat from the COVID-19 pandemic and limited space available, access to the Commission's meeting will also be available via video conference.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

**I. PRELIMINARIES:**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes: April 22, 2021

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS****III. REPORTS:**

- A. Report by the Chairman
- B. Report by the Executive Director

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:**

- A. Casino Licensee – Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC ("IPI") – Updates:
  - 1. Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel ("IPR").
    - a) Status of IPI's request for extension of the IGF construction deadline per CLA Amendment #6. Update on documents submitted to the Office of the Governor per Governor Torres' February 26, 2021 letter.
    - b) Status of IPI's IGF, Phase I, and Phase II projects
  - 2. Status on the receivership
  - 3. IPI Personnel:
    - a) Status of Employee Payroll
    - b) Status of unpaid payroll & severance pay for employees already off-island
    - c) Weekly report to the Federal Court
- B. Status on IPI's compliance with Commission Order No. 2021-002
- C. Annual Audit Reports and IPI Financial Matters
- D. Other Miscellaneous Matters

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Consideration of technical amendments to CCC Order 2021-002 "Final Order in Enforcement Actions 2020-001 (consolidated) and 2020-003 (consolidated)".
- B. CCC Comments on Senate Bill No. 22-23 "To authorize a second casino license in the event that the exclusive casino license is revoked by the Commonwealth Casino Commission; and for other purposes".

**VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. CCC Comments on Senate Bill No. 22-42 "To amend 4 CMC § 1503(h) to authorize the respective casino commission of each senatorial district to regulate the maintenance of poker and pachinko machines; and for other purposes".
- B. Other New Business Matters

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- A. Consult with Legal Counsel
- B. Report by the CCC Divisions (Compliance, Audit and Enforcement)
- C. CCC Personnel Matters

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Commission reserves the right to amend this Agenda and take action on the amended Agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (b). Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912 (a)(7) and 1 CMC §9912 (c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary. For those interested in joining or attending the meeting via video conference, please contact the Commission at [info@cnmicasinocommission.com](mailto:info@cnmicasinocommission.com) for instructions on how to log-in to the conference site.

/s/ Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero  
Chairman



# Rota students clean beaches for Tourism Month



In celebration of May Tourism Month, high school students on Rota donated their time to clean the island last Monday, May 17, in cooperation with the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Nineteen students of the Asian Invasion Club of Dr. Rita S. Inos Jr./Sr. High School conducted beach

cleanups at Teteto Beach and Guata Beach on the southern end of the island.

"This year for Tourism Month activity we have chosen to do a beach cleanup to teach kids the importance of having and living in a clean environment," said MVA Field Operations supervisor David Atalig. "The cleanup benefits the tour-

ism industry, our community, and our sea life by preventing all this trash and unwanted items from entering our ocean. It's a good opportunity to teach the younger generation how a little hard work goes a long way."

The group collected nearly 125 lbs of trash and was accompanied by adult organizers Neila Lana and Sabrina Calvo. (PR)

**MVA**  
Students of the Asian Invasion Club of Dr. Rita S. Inos Jr./Sr. High School clean the Guata Beach on the island of Rota on May 17, 2021, in celebration of May Tourism Month.



Nearly 125 lbs of trash were collected by students of Dr. Rita S. Inos Jr./Sr. High School at Teteto and Guata Beaches on Rota on May 17, 2021. The cleanup was held with the Marianas Visitors Authority in celebration of May Tourism Month. **MVA**

## Activities, contests, 5K Walk for Tourism lined up for Tourism Month

To mark Tourism Month, the Marianas Visitors Authority will be hosting a Walk for Tourism 5K on May 22, 2021, at 7am from Minachom Atdao to Quartermaster Road and back. The walk, organized under the theme "Power of Travel," invites participants to dress as a tourist for a chance to win cash prizes. Prizes are \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third place. Registration is free, and the first 100 registrants will receive a 2021 Tourism Month T-shirt. Registration will open at 6am.

The MVA also invites residents of the Marianas to post their photo of Tinian on Facebook with the hashtags #VisitTheMarianas and #CaptureYourTinianTreasure for a chance to win cash prizes. Winners will be announced on May 31, 2021.

The MVA is also holding a high school student essay contest. The theme "Power of Travel: COVID19 Impact and Tourism Recovery in The Marianas" invites students to describe how COVID-19 has impacted the Marianas tourism community and share their thoughts how the Marianas should move forward with tourism recovery. Entries must be in Microsoft Word and not more than 600 words. Entries must be received by 5pm on May 25, 2021, and must be submitted to communityprojects@mymarianas.com. Entries must include the student's name, grade, school, and email address. Prizes are: \$300 for first place, \$200 for second place, and \$100 for third place. Winners will be contacted via email and announced on the MVA's official Facebook page, Visit the Marianas, on May 31, 2021, at 12pm. The contest is open to all public and private school students grades 9-12 in the Marianas. By entering, contestants agree to allow MVA to use their name, image, and essay for promotional purposes, and a parental consent form must be attached required. Forms are downloadable under Events at www.facebook.

com/VisitTheMarianas.

The public has the chance to win Tourism Month T-shirts and gift certificates by correctly answering tourism-related trivia questions on radio station Power 99 (97.5 FM) and KSPN2.

The public is also invited to join a cleanup organized by the Japan-Saipan Travel Association on May 29 at 9am at the Last Command Post in Marpi.

The Hafa Adai & Tirow Pledge program will be launched this month, inviting companies, organizations, and individuals to make a deeper commitment and take more responsibility to develop, promote, and support the Hafa Adai/Tirow Spirit in the Marianas.

On Tinian, a Tourist for a Day educational field trip on May 28 will educate youth

through firsthand experience of how tourism effects everyone in the islands.

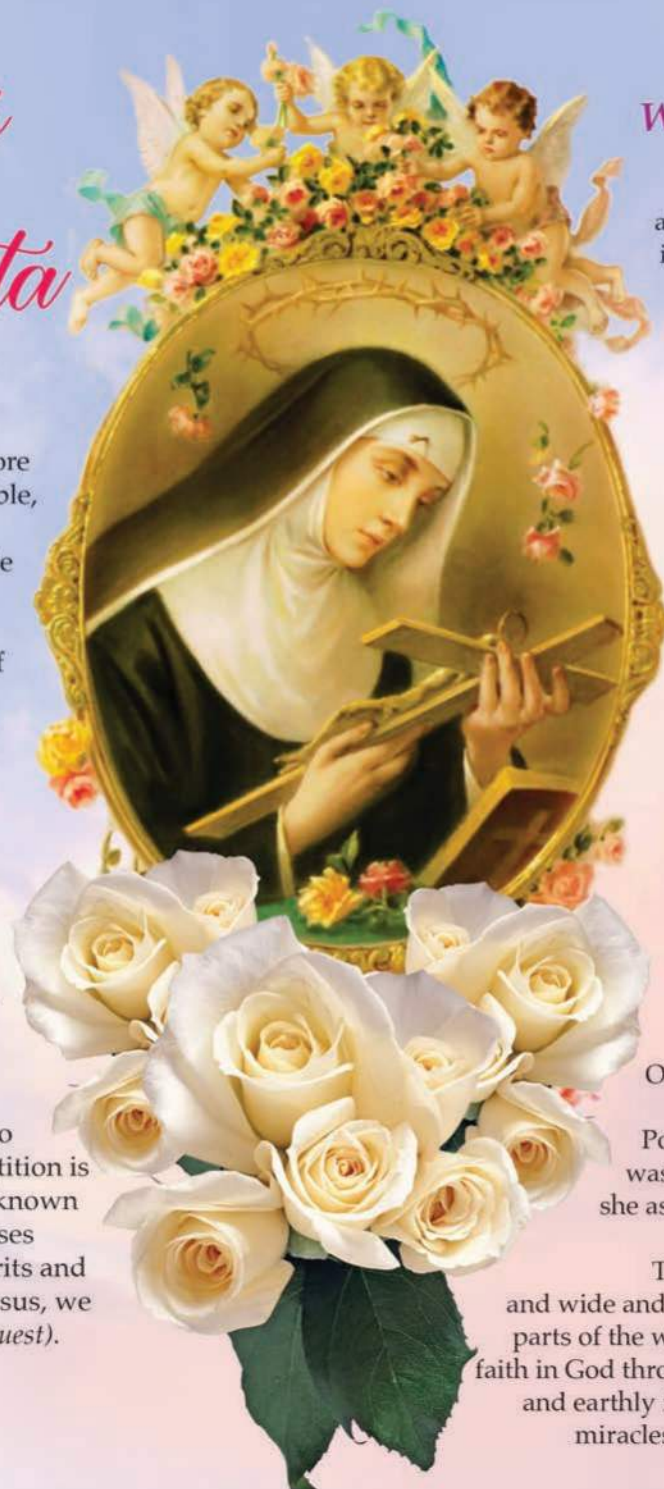
For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/VisitTheMarianas](http://www.facebook.com/VisitTheMarianas) or The Marianas Calendar at [www.mymarianas.com/The-Marianas-Calendar](http://www.mymarianas.com/The-Marianas-Calendar) or contact MVA Community Projects specialist Jack Aranda at 664-3200/1 or [communityprojects@mymarianas.com](mailto:communityprojects@mymarianas.com). (PR)

## Prayer to St. Rita

O Holy Patroness of those in need, St. Rita, whose pleadings before thy Divine Lord are almost irresistible, who for thy lavishness in granting favors hast been called the Advocate of the Hopeless and even of the Impossible; St. Rita, so humble, so pure, so mortified, so patient and of such compassionate love for thy Crucified Jesus that thou couldst obtain from Him whatsoever thou askest, on account of which all confidently have recourse to thee, expecting, if not always relief, at least comfort; be propitious to our petition, showing thy power with God on behalf of thy suppliant; be lavish to us, as thou hast been in so many wonderful cases, for the greater glory of God, for the spreading of thine own devotion, and for the consolation of those who trust in thee. We promise, if our petition is granted, to glorify thee by making known thy favor, to bless and sing thy praises forever. Relying then upon thy merits and power before the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we pray thee that (*here mention your request*).

**Feast Day: May 22**

Patron Saint of: Hopeless cases, victims of abuse and widows.



## ST. RITA

Wife, Mother, Widow, Nun

St. Rita was born in Umbria, Italy, about the year 1386, and died at Cascia, in the year 1456. Being the daughter of parents who were advanced in years, she met with much opposition when she let it be known of her intention of becoming a nun. Yielding to her parents desires, she married a cruel man. After converting him from his wicked ways, he was murdered by criminals. Left alone in the world, she applied several times for admissions into the Augustinian convent in Cascia.

Every application was refused, and God Himself cleared away all obstacles and she entered the convent, made her profession and lived the life of a holy and devout religious for forty-two years, "a shining example of every Christian virtue, pure as a lily, simple as a dove, and obedient as an angel." That "God is wonderful in His saints" is easily proven in the life of St. Rita.

On one occasion Rita requested a rose to be brought to her from her garden at Porena in the middle of winter. The rose was found in full bloom. At another time, she asked for a fig, and the same was found.

The reports of these wonders spread far and wide and people flocked to the convent from all parts of the world, only to receive in return for their faith in God through the prayers of Rita many spiritual and earthly favors. Because of the great number of miracles made possible by St. Rita, she is often called "The Saint of the Impossible."



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
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### EDITORIAL

## Cease-fire: Much more needed from Biden in Israel, Hamas conflict

Unrelenting airstrikes from Israeli fighter jets on Gaza, and barrages of Hamas rockets onto Israeli cities, have moved into a second week. On the Palestinian side, the death toll topped 200, including 59 children, as of Sunday evening. At least eight Israelis have been killed in the violence. As has been the case with previous wars between Hamas and Israel, civilians endure the brunt of the conflict.

"We are tired," Haya Abdelal, a 21-year-old Gaza woman, told The Associated Press. She lives next to the building destroyed by an Israeli airstrike Sunday. She fled into the street after the blast woke her up. "We need a truce. We can't bear it anymore."

Both Israel and Hamas appear far away from the prospect of a cease-fire. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday that his country's bombing campaign on Gaza would continue at "full-force," and that Israel "wants to levy a heavy price" on Hamas. The Washington Post quoted a senior Israeli military officer as saying there's no evidence of Hamas standing down, and that Israel is bracing for a prolonged conflict.

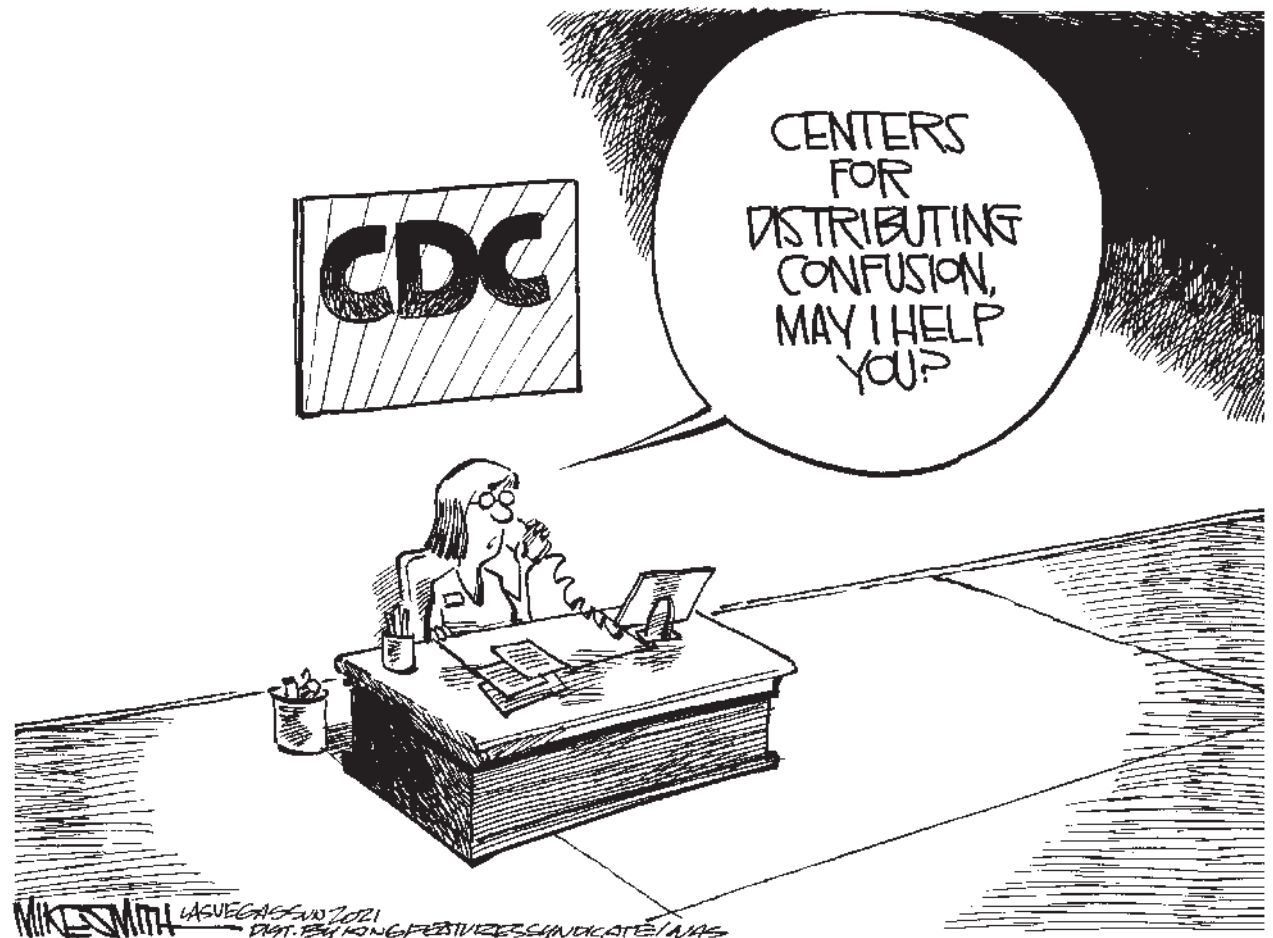
That points to a tragic inevitability in coming days and perhaps weeks—more civilians will die, and more ruination and misery as a result.

Has President Joe Biden done enough to push both sides toward a cease-fire? Sadly, he has not. On Monday evening, the White House said Biden spoke with Netanyahu and expressed support for a cease-fire, though it wasn't clear how forceful his tone was.

This is Biden's first major foreign policy crisis. He's treading carefully, and he's correct in backing Israel's right to defend itself against indiscriminate Hamas rocket fire on Israeli civilians. Israel's strategy to go after Hamas' "Metro," the vast web of tunnels underneath Gaza territory that serves as a vascular system for the movement of rockets, supplies and soldiers, is justifiable.

But Israeli airstrikes on Hamas targets have disproportionately exacted a higher toll on Palestinian civilians. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said while Hamas must stop rocket attacks on Israeli civilian targets, Israel "as a democracy has an extra burden to do everything possible to avoid civilian casualties."

Netanyahu's government still must fully explain the Saturday's attack on a 12-story building in Gaza City that housed offices for The Associated Press, Al-Jazeera and other media outlets. Netanyahu told CBS' "Face the Nation" on Sunday that the presence of Hamas military intelligence inside the building made it "a perfectly legitimate target." Media organizations and other tenants were given an hour to evacuate. But AP executive editor Sally Buzbee says Israel has yet to disclose clear evidence that justified the airstrike and has called for an independent probe into

See **CONFLICT** on Next Page

## Is it too hard to become a doctor today?

Across the nation this spring, thousands of aspiring physicians are receiving acceptance letters to medical schools. I remember the arrival of mine nearly two decades ago, especially as there was only one, (a relief after being wait-listed elsewhere). Unfortunately, this spring will also witness a greater number of applicants to American medical schools—many of them extraordinarily talented—rejected from every institution to which they apply.

As more college students are inspired to pursue medical careers, by Anthony Fauci and the ordinary heroism of my colleagues during the pandemic, fewer and fewer of them will succeed. That is not just a tragedy for these would-be physicians, but for our society as a whole.

Never has the argument for training more physicians been stronger. Our population is aging rapidly, increasing the need for providers. Doctors of the baby boom generation are beginning to retire, a process likely exacerbated by the pandemic. A study conducted by the Association of American Medical Colleges released in 2020 predicted a shortage of up to 139,000 physicians by 2033. Moreover, one of the key lessons of COVID-19 is that keeping our population healthy during ordinary times will reduce both mortality and costs during future outbreaks of disease. One cannot help wondering how many lives might have been saved over the past year if sufficient medical care had been readily available over the past generation, especially in low-income areas and communities of color.

Yet during the last admissions cycle, more than 30,000 applicants were rebuffed. Of course, not all of them were suitable candidates for medical careers. Some lacked the intellectual skills needed to graduate, while others proved deficient in commitment or character. However, a significant number would have made fine physicians. They were excellent candidates—just not excellent enough. Many will reapply, some multiple times.

Others will pursue medical education at private institutions in the Caribbean and then apply for additional training in the United States, although they may be unable to secure such residencies. Far too many will decide they are not cut out for medicine and give up. And then there are the countless talented individuals who never apply: daunted by a process that appears brutal and unforgiving. Too often, this latter category includes potential applicants from backgrounds underrepresented in medicine. In one

By **JACOB M. APPEL**

The Baltimore Sun

*Jacob M. Appel is director of Ethics Education in Psychiatry at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in Baltimore. He is the author of Who Says You're Dead? a collection of ethical conundrums. This was written for the Baltimore Sun.*



particularly troubling trend, the percentage of Black male applicants has actually declined over the past 40 years.

To put the matter plainly: It has become too difficult to get into medical school. The mean MCAT score for matriculants now exceeds the 88th percentile, while the average GPA tops an A-. That means many above-average students at prestigious universities, who would make first-rate clinicians, have no realistic shot at admission. If the goal were quality control, these high standards might make sense. Alas, there is no data to indicate that applicants with stratospheric metrics become more knowledgeable or compassionate physicians than those mere mortals whose scores are earthbound. To paraphrase Robert Frost, we have built a wall without considering what we are walling in and walling out. My board scores, for what it is worth, were average—in an era when average was much less impressive than at present.

One of the common laments one hears from members of the medical school admissions committee on which I serve is, "I'd never get admitted today." That may or may not be false modesty, but the bar is definitely higher. It need not be. Anyone who can be a doctor, and wants to be a doctor, should be a doctor. Rather than lamenting that nurse practitioners and psychologists are encroaching upon our turf, physicians and our organizations should be taking steps to make that encroachment unnecessary: lobbying for the construction of more medical schools and urging Congress to fund additional residency programs. As the supply of physicians increases, that might result in current doctors receiving less reimbursement. But it will also expand opportunities for earnest, hardworking kids from diverse backgrounds, while ensuring more Americans have access to the health care they desperately need.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

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# We've entered the blind-faith, hope-for-the-best phase of COVID-19. Can we trust that person next to us in line is vaccinated?

**L**et me make sure I've got this right. The government is telling Americans who have been vaccinated that we no longer have to wear masks but those who haven't been vaccinated do.

And the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says, "Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing."

President Joe Biden tweeted, "The rule is now simple: get vaccinated or wear a mask until you do."

Are we supposed to assume that everyone we encounter who isn't wearing a mask is fully vaccinated? Does that mean we no longer have to tell the maskless person standing on our heels in the grocery store checkout line to step back?

Yes, it's true. So why aren't we celebrating? Why is everyone so wary?

It's because the government is asking us to trust our fellow Americans. We don't.

Biden's chief medical adviser, Dr. Anthony Fauci, admitted on CNN that there's no way for businesses such as restaurants and airlines, or anyone, to know whether someone has been vaccinated.

"You're going to be depending on people being honest enough to say whether they were vaccinated or not and responsible enough to be wearing a mask not only for their own protection but the protection of others," he said.

Certainly, the government isn't naive enough to think that everyone who hasn't been vaccinated will either stay at home or put on a mask when they go out. How could it expect us to trust the people who insist that COVID-19 is a hoax?

The Biden administration insists that the pandemic is not over, yet it is telling the 37% of Americans who have been vaccinated that they can act as though it is. But the pandemic is still raging for the 63% who haven't had the shots. That's the majority of the country.

Don't officials realize that most of the adults yet to be vaccinated are the ones who never believed in wearing masks in the first place?

Don't they know that many of the holdouts are the very people who don't care about catching COVID-19 or passing it to others? Don't they understand that you can't expect unvaccinated

people to be honest about their status?

Obviously, there are lots of questions about the revised mask guidelines handed down last week. It's not that Americans haven't been looking forward to returning to normal; we're just not sure the country is ready.

We didn't expect the new freedom to arrive so suddenly. We thought we'd be able to ease back into normality at our own pace.

Local and state officials have the final say, but only 24 states had indoor mask requirements in place to begin with. At least 20 of those states said they are now planning to drop their mask mandates.

That's scary. For example, Florida, which has no mask mandate and few restrictions, saw more than 10,000 COVID-19 cases from three variants following the recent spring break.

Soon after the mask restrictions were eased, retail giant Walmart was among the first to announce that it would no longer require vaccinated shoppers or workers to wear masks in its stores.

Meanwhile, officials in big cities, where people tend to move in proximity, were caught off-guard and are scrambling to figure out how to handle one set of rules for part of the population and a different set for the other.

This is happening as cities begin to reopen, despite only 1 in 3 people being fully vaccinated. Concerts and other mass gatherings are expected to return this summer. Bars, indoor restaurants and sports venues are on track too.

Soon, people will return to swarming around each other, breathing, coughing and spitting like they used to before anyone heard of COVID-19.

Not long ago, health officials were touting the importance of herd immunity in bringing the virus under control. Now, they seem to have given up on that idea. Obviously, they've decided to move forward and just see what happens.

We'd like to trust that health officials are following the science. We know the vaccine is effectively protecting us as promised, but it's not 100% foolproof. Still, even with the rare chance a vaccinated person contracts COVID-19, the symptoms likely would be mild.

What concerns us is that America is nowhere near herd im-

By **DAHLEEN GLANTON**

Chicago Tribune



*Dahleen Glanton is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.*

munity and won't be anytime soon. Without it, there's a good chance of more virus surges and the return of lockdowns, restrictions and masks.

Our friends and loved ones with HIV or a weakened immune system due to illness or medication remain at risk. Those with underlying autoimmune conditions such as lupus, multiple sclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis have increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19, even when vaccinated.

Several public health officials have questioned the wisdom of the relaxed mask mandate. National Nurses United—the nation's largest union of registered nurses—said the mask rollback jeopardizes the health of front-line workers as well as the public, and disproportionately harms people of color.

The other problem is that many Americans don't fully trust the CDC either. During the past four years, the nation's once-premier public health agency was a puppet for an administration that never took the pandemic seriously enough. Regardless of how many people became sick or died, the primary goal was to fully reopen the country so that the then-president could boast about the economy.

Public confidence in the CDC was severely eroded. Though the agency is rebuilding under new leadership, many Americans haven't forgotten the betrayal. It will take time to trust that CDC directives are no longer entirely politically driven and that decisions regarding COVID-19 are made in the public's interest.

Gaining the confidence to discard our masks will take time, as well. Those who care about health and safety are no more likely to walk into a Walmart without a mask than ride in a car without seat belt.

## Biden's child care folly

**J**oe Biden has a New Deal for America's kids.

He wants to spend more than \$225 billion on child care for infants and toddlers, and \$200 billion for free, universal preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds.

This is being hailed as a social revolution that will finally bring the United States in line with other advanced democracies.

In reality, it's a program that shows a pronounced class bias. And since it is heedless of the experience of other such mass programs in the United States and around the world, the Biden approach is also likely to fail to achieve its goals.

It's just not true, as the Biden program assumes, that parents of young children are eager to shuttle them off to industrialized daycare or pre-K programs.

An extensive survey for the populist thinktank American Compass found a stark class divide in how couples think about child care. The survey asked couples if they preferred to have one parent working full time while the other parent provides child care in the home, or to have both parents working and using child care full time. One parent working was the preference of strong majorities of working-class (68%) and lower-class couples (58%), with a plurality of middle-class couples (38%) agreeing. Only a plurality of upper-class couples preferred the child care option (44%).

So, Biden is talking about using taxpayer dollars to create as a default an arrangement that most parents would rather avoid.

Then, there are outcomes. In a paper earlier this year for the

Manhattan Institute, researcher Max Eden reviewed the literature.

The programs that have produced the most remarkable positive outcomes over the years tend to be small, expensive, and very difficult to replicate.

On the other side of the ledger, there's the Quebec Family Policy. The Canada province developed a crash program in the late 1990s that rapidly expanded child care with generally deleterious effects. Researchers found increased behavioral, social, and health problems for the kids, and interestingly, worse outcomes for parents, too. The results were, in the words of one authoritative study, "striking in their consistent indication of a substantial negative impact of universal child care on children in two-parent families."

The exception in Quebec, per another study, was children from single-parent families, where positive results were "particularly large for individuals at the very bottom of the distribution."

The Quebec outcomes, as Eden notes, accord with what's been found elsewhere—child care is best for disadvantaged children and worst for children from two-parent families.

As for pre-K, the largest study of Head Start, the federal program for low-income children, found any early benefits faded by the third grade. Other research has been more encouraging. But a rigorous, randomized control study of low-income kids in an extensive pre-K program in Tennessee showed initial gains washed away and then, over time, participants had worse academic and behavioral outcomes.

The research of James Heckman, a Nobel Prize-winning econ-

underneath buildings that house businesses and civilian families. It uses its own citizens as human shields. If it weren't for Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system, the civilian toll on the Israeli side of the border would be devastatingly higher. The defense system has fended off roughly 90% of the rockets Hamas launches over the border, the Israeli military says.

Lasting peace between Israel and Palestinians is a faraway

By **RICH LOWRY**

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*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

omist at the University of Chicago who studied one of the most successful programs, is often cited by advocates of the Biden plan. In an interview last year, though, Heckman stipulated that he has never supported universal pre-K. He said the benefits of a loving, engaged family have never been adequately measured.

"Public preschool programs can *potentially* compensate for the home environments of disadvantaged children," Heckman said. "No public preschool program can provide the environments and the parental love and care of a functioning family and the lifetime benefits that ensue."

All of this would suggest taking a cautious approach focused on the least-advantaged kids rather than moving full-speed ahead on a massive federal expenditure to get as many kids into daycare and pre-K as possible, probably through the existing structure of public schools.

But, in a desperate rush to spend another \$4 trillion, Joe Biden wants his New Deal for kids—whether it's good for them or not.

prospect right now. It's also virtually unimaginable without any movement toward a cease-fire. The international community can do much more to push both sides toward a truce to stop the violence now. Leading that effort should be the voice of the U.S. and President Biden. So far, that voice has been all too ineffective—and quiet.

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## CONFLICT

From Page 10

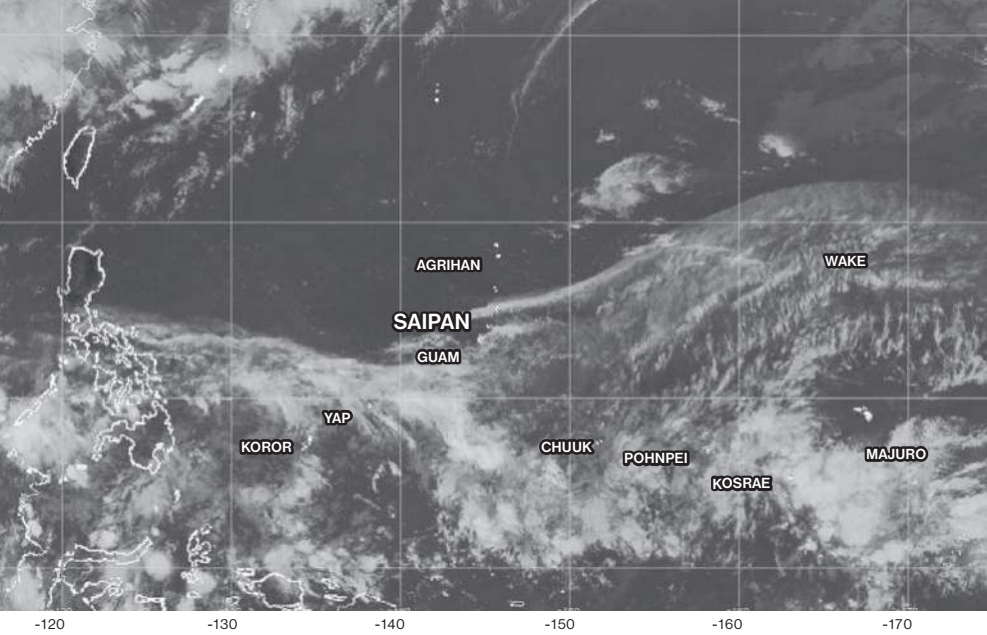
the attack.

Meanwhile, Hamas continues to pose an existential threat not just to Israel, but to its own people. Hamas builds its tunnels



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
87°	79°	87°	79°	88°	79°	88°	79°	88°	79°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 8:14 AM, THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180. Gentle to moderate east trade winds prevail over the Marianas this morning. Satellite imagery shows only a few showers over the area.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

## STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

### Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

### Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

### Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

### seconds.

If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

Source: Office of the Governor

### NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	88   81 °F	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85   78 °F	
Yap	Partly cloudy	89   72 °F	
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	87   82 °F	
Pohnpei	Mostly cloudy	86   80 °F	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86   80 °F	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85   80 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:40 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:40 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:31 AM	1:31 PM
Saturday	-	2:13 AM	2:27 PM
Sunday	-	2:55 AM	3:24 PM
Monday	-	3:39 AM	4:23 PM
Tuesday	-	4:25 AM	5:26 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly cloudy	64   55 °F	
Beijing	Sunny	88   68 °F	
Hong Kong	Showers	79   74 °F	
Honolulu	Sunny	83   71 °F	
London	Partly cloudy	64   51 °F	
Los Angeles	Mostly cloudy	68   57 °F	
Manila	Thunderstorms	91   79 °F	
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	68   46 °F	
Miami	Rain	85   77 °F	
New York	Sunny	92   71 °F	
Osaka	Sunny	77   56 °F	
Paris	Rain	61   49 °F	
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	84   57 °F	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	82   61 °F	
Salem	Overcast	61   43 °F	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	64   50 °F	
Seoul	Sunny	79   54 °F	
Tokyo	Cloudy	71   57 °F	
Washington, DC	Partly cloudy	94   70 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:34 AM	High Tide	2.01	
9:47 AM	Low Tide	1.13	
2:27 PM	High Tide	1.60	
9:12 PM	Low Tide	0.41	

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 20, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (*The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.*)

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily	1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily	1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
ROTA TO GUAM				FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable				



# PSS places focus on guarding the mental health of educators, staff

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada said the Public School System has been awarded a grant by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to address social and emotional learning of mostly educators on island.



Ada

“In this pandemic, when we got hit with the COVID-19, and the lockdown, everything shifted overnight. It really did cause a lot of trauma, not just ourselves, but mainly our students,” he said.

Under the SAMHSA grant, PSS was able to facilitate several mental health services, including the “Be Kind to Your Mind” campaign, where learning how to cope with trauma, as well as anxiety that may lead to depression, were taught.

“Before we get to depression, there’s that anxiety. How do we address the anxiety first? So, with Dr. Jen Maratita, Dr. Bonnie Pangelinan, and Dr. Bobby Cruz, and Lorraine Catienza, with the leadership of these grant writers that made the SAMHSA grant possible, we are able to address the trauma caused by this pandemic at all levels—from the Board of Education to PSS staff, to teachers, to school principals, and now, even the youth,” he said. “We’re teaching them how to review when you’re feeling anxious, what to do and how to recover. It’s as simple as breathing three times. We will be doing like several rounds of that. We want to keep our PSS community safe and healthy.”

The commissioner also shared that a lot of agencies have been reaching out to their mental health services, but they are prioritizing the students. “Students first,” he stressed.

Ada said their mental health

mindfulness sessions aim to educate people to help “break the stigma” associated with mental health. “One of the things that they always stress is [that] we, as a community, have to break that stigma, that when you’re looking for

help, because you—when you don’t understand why your heart is pumping and your mind is not thinking straight and [are feeling] negative—you’ve got to go out and seek help, or find someone to talk to,” he said. “This pandemic has really made us uncertain of everything, so it’s normal. It’s normal to go look for help. Don’t be ashamed. Don’t ever, because the life you save is yours.”

Participants are also being taught of the “current reality of what’s happening and how to move forward to be mentally safe.”

The commissioner appealed to everyone in the community to not be judgmental of those who are seeking help, or who are claiming to be feeling anxiety.

“I feel it too. I’m not ashamed. Nobody should ever be ashamed,” Ada said. “We need to take care of each other. This mental anguish, mental fatigue, the depression, they’re neither right nor wrong. They’re just there. But you’ve got to be conscious about it. When that time comes, [when] it’s a fight or flight, go look for help, please.”

In connection, everyone in the community is invited to the #MentalHealthMatters Vibe in Color fun obstacle course the CNMI Public School System has helped organize with the Community Guidance Center of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. at the Francisco “Tan Ko” M. Palacios Baseball Field this Saturday, May 22, from 4pm to 6:30pm. *(Iva Maurin)*

## A NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SOCIAL SERVICE JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



### (1) EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

For more information, job description and application can be obtained from Karidat main office at Sister Remedios Community Center, Chalan Kanoa.

**DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:** Complete application form, copy of diploma/degree, resume/bio-data; current police clearance within 6 months and a copy of valid CNMI driver’s license.

**NO PHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.  
CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021 AT 4:00 PM**



## DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 | Gualo Rai Center, Saipan  
TEL. NO. 664-8300 | FAX NO. 664-8315  
[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION As of May 21, 2021

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Office of the Mayor, Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan	04/13/2021 TMS-2021-025	Invasive Ungulate with Plant Management	Eskuela, Aguiguan	Major Siting	Approved* 05/19/2021
2. Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	05/04/2021 SWm-2021-028	Archaeological Investigation for Chalan Galaide Waterline Replacement Project	Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 05/19/2021
3. Office of the Mayor, Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan	05/03/2021 TSM-2021-002	Picnic Table Huts	Tachungna, Tinian	Shoreline	Approved* 05/10/2021
4. Yumiko N. Brundidge dba Naka's Diving Services	05/06/2021 SLR-2018-143-R4	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
5. Office of the Governor	05/17/2021 PSLR-2021-030	Installation of Airstrip & Temporary Docking Area	Pagan, Northern Islands	Shoreline, Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
6. Marine Tech Saipan, Inc. dba S2 Club	05/13/2021 STLR-2018-X-130-R4	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation	All Designated Site on Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
7. Saipan Marine Dive Co., Ltd.	05/13/2021 SLR-2018-X-073-R4	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation	All Designated Site on Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
8. Aqua Connection, Inc.	05/13/2021 STLR-2018-X-067-R4	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation & Snorkeling	All Designated Site on Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
9. Wondersea Saipan, Inc.	05/17/2021 STLR-2018-X-103-R4	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation	All Designated Sites on Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
10. Advance Marine Corp.	05/17/2021 SLR-2018-X-097-R4	Parasailing	Saipan & Managaha	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
11. Crystal Star Corp.	05/17/2021 SLR-2021-016-R2	Kayaking	Saipan Lagoon (Oleai-Beach Area)	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
12. Sakura CNMI Corp. dba Sakura Marine Sports	05/17/2021 SLR-2018-X-084-R4	Personal Water Craft & Wakeboarding	Fiesta Resort Beach Area	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
13. Sakura CNMI Corp. dba Sakura Marine Sports	05/17/2021 SLR-2018-X-083-R4	Snorkeling, Kayaking & Banana Boat	Fiesta Resort Beach Area	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
14. Vertical Aviation, LLC	05/17/2021 SPF-2020-X-043-A1	Extension of Warehouse	Puerto Rico, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Under Review
15. Seahorse, Inc. dba Seahorse Tour	05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-090-R4	Personal Water Craft, Para-Sailing & Banana Boat	Saipan & Managaha	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
16. Saipan Aqua World Inc.	05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-094-R4	SCUBA Diving Tour & Seawalker	Saipan & Managaha	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
17. Tao Tao Marianas, Inc.	05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-091-R4	Banana Boat	Saipan & Managaha	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
18. Tao Tao Marianas, Inc.	05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-092-R4	Personal Water Craft	Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
19. Tao Tao Marianas, Inc.	05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-093-R4	Parasailing	Saipan & Managaha	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
20. Roy Alexander	05/18/2021 SS-2021-031	Extension of Residential Home	Oleai, Saipan	Shoreline	Under Review*
21. J & K Marine Sports, Inc.	05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-102-R4	Personal Water Craft w/ Accessory Use (Jetovator)	Beach Areas Fronting Kanoa Resort	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
22. J & K Marine Sports, Inc.	05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-069-R4	Banana Boat, Snorkeling & Wakeboarding	Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
23. World Corporation dba Wave Jungle	05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-160-R4	Kayaking, Snorkeling & Stand Up Paddle Board Windsurfing & Floaters	Beach Areas Fronting Saipan World Resort	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
24. Tropical Leisure Sports, Inc.	05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-068-R4	Personal Water Craft, Banana Boat & Parasailing	Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
25. CNS, Inc.	05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-135-R4	Personal Water Craft, Kayak, Snorkeling, Stand Up Paddle Board	Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
26. United Front Co., Ltd.	05/20/2021 SLR-2018-X-085-R4	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction & Snorkeling	All Designated Dive Site	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



# Cars, \$10K lined up as hole-in-one prizes at SCC golf tourney



From left, Joe Guerrero, Marcia Calvo, Peter Tenorio, Shayne Villanueva, Lee Tenorio, Matt Deets, and Ray Alvarez.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Golfers should come prepared to win big this Saturday, May 22, at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Golf Tournament at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Atkins Kroll Toyota has donated a 2021 Toyota Highlander as a possible hole-in-one prize in hole No. 13.

Triple J Motors has donated a 2021 Hyundai Tucson as a Hole-In-One Prize in hole No. 7.

A 2021 Kia Seltos awaits lucky golfers in hole No. 3, courtesy of Joeten Motors Co.

Golfers also have a chance to win \$10,000 cash, courtesy of hole-in-one prize sponsor, United Equipment Rental, in



From left, Shayne Villanueva (Saipan Chamber of Commerce), Rene Batallones (United Equipment Rental), Joe Guerrero (SCC), and Das Krishnan (SCC).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

hole No. 7.

The SCC Scholarship Golf Tournament is scheduled for

Saturday, with a 6am show-time and 7am shotgun.

The event is sold out, and



From left, Mark Sablan (Atkins-Kroll Toyota), Liza Taylor (AK Toyota), Marcia Calvo (Saipan Chamber of Commerce), Joe Guerrero (SCC), Lee Tenorio (SCC), Shayne Villanueva (SCC), Kevin Ada (AK Toyota), and Joel Lesh (AK Toyota).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Triple J Motors general manager Sean Ficke, Triple J Construction Operations Manager/Sr. Superintendent Mario Valentino, Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director Lee Tenorio, SCC special assistant Maxine Laszlo, and the Triple J Motors Sales Team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

golfers can pick up their pre-registration packets from May 17-May 20 at the SCC Of-

fice in the Marianas Business Plaza, Room 413. Contact the Saipan Chamber of Com-

merce at 234-7150 or coordinator@saipanchamber.com for more info. (PR)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**Department of Community and Cultural Affairs**  
Office of the Secretary

Caller Box 10007 Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950  
Tel. (670) 664-2587 Fax (670) 664-2571



## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program continues to be open to accept applications for Front liners. Front liners are defined as:

1. Front liners/workers assigned to working on Covid-19 activities with direct contact of individuals for example: workers at testing sites, workers at quarantine sites, law enforcement assisting at testing sites;
2. Law enforcement, public safety officers, CNMI Homeland Security employees, emergency medical services working on Covid-19 activities with direct contact of individuals, including all individuals who work and provide medical services at the hospital or private clinics;
3. Retail cashiers, gas attendants, sanitation workers, bank tellers;
4. Child care teachers, caregivers, including employees in the educational sector.

Front liners who may not necessarily meet income guidelines for the family may still qualify. For more information regarding eligibility requirements, please call Genevieve Guerrero, CCDF Eligibility Specialist at 664-2576 or email at [dcca.jguerrero@gmail.com](mailto:dcca.jguerrero@gmail.com) or Joella Rosario, CCDF Eligibility Specialist at 664-2575 or email at [ccdf.jrosario@gmail.com](mailto:ccdf.jrosario@gmail.com). You may also want to visit [cnmicclp.gov.mp](http://cnmicclp.gov.mp) to download the CCDF Waitlist Application Packet.

/s/ Maribel D. Loste  
CCDF Administrator

/s/ Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero  
DCCA Secretary



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**Department of Community and Cultural Affairs**  
Office of the Secretary

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950  
Tel. (670) 664-2587 • Fax (670) 664-2571



## NOTICE

### Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program will hold a public hearing to provide an opportunity for the community to comment on the provisions of child care services under the CNMI CCDF State Plan for FFY2022-2024.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing to provide their comments relative to the proposed State Plan either orally or in writing at the hearing. The Public Hearing is scheduled for these dates, times, and location.

<b>June 1, 2021</b>	<b>Kagman Community Center, Saipan</b>	<b>6:00p.m.</b>
<b>June 2, 2021</b>	<b>Carolinian Utt, Garapan, Saipan</b>	<b>6:00p.m.</b>
<b>June 4, 2021</b>	<b>Sinapalo Youth Center, Rota</b>	<b>5:30p.m.</b>
<b>June 10, 2021</b>	<b>Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria, Tinian</b>	<b>5:30p.m.</b>

Covid-19 protocols will be strictly followed for all public hearing dates. This will include temperature check, sign in, and limit of participants to accommodate social distancing.

A sign language interpreter is available at all public hearings. Large print of the summary of the CNMI CCDF State Plan may be provided if a written request is made at least 5-working days before the scheduled hearing. All written requests should be forwarded to [mloste.cnmiccdf@gmail.com](mailto:mloste.cnmiccdf@gmail.com) with the subject line: Request for Large Print of Summary of CCDF State Plan.

Copies of the proposed CNMI CCDF State Plan will be available for download by May 15, 2021 via the Child Care Licensing Program website at [www.cnmicclp.gov.mp](http://www.cnmicclp.gov.mp).

All written comments should be received by the Child Care and Development Fund on or before June 15, 2021 and addressed to: Maribel Loste, CCDF Program Administrator. Written comments may be submitted via drop box at the CCDF Office, Bldg. No. 1347 Ascension Ct. Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 or via email at [mloste.cnmiccdf@gmail.com](mailto:mloste.cnmiccdf@gmail.com).

/s/ Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, DCCA Secretary



# Business

## Fresh Market supports local farmers

By **BEA CABRERA**

beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

**F**resh Market located in Garapan opened in January this year as the outlet for slaughterhouse, Marianas Meat Harvesting Corp., but they are also dedicated to support local livestock producers and farmers to sustain the meat industry in



Fresh Market sells local vegetables to boost the livelihood of local farmers.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

all of the CNMI. According to manager Kevin Kim, their main products are local meat like fresh pork and beef.

“Our main product is local meat that includes fresh pork and beef. We are the only company licensed for slaughtering legally as we work with U.S. Department of Agriculture and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point team who are very strict regarding the processing of food and meat,” said Kim.

“We offer fresh meat which are USDA certified. Every slaughtering process is conducted by an inspector in a very clean environment and orderly manner. We guarantee the freshness of our products that are enjoyed by the local community,” he added.

Kim said that all their products are from Saipan. “Our livestock is grown and slaughtered by our company. Cows and pigs are also raised by us in our farm and again, an inspector from USDA is participating in all of our slaughtering



Fresh Market meat is USDA certified, guaranteed fresh, and safe for consumption.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

as an observer so we can truly say our product are top of the line and reliable for our customers.”

“The main focus of our food is ‘healthy’ as we pursue for the community to eat fresh and stay healthy. Our cows are grass-fed and this means it is good for our diet and obtains more vitamin, especially for Omega 3,” he added.

Kim advised customers to make sure they get the fresh-

est meat, and rely on their eyes and touch. “Visual identification of quality meat is based on color and firmness as meat should appear firm rather than very soft. Aside from pork and beef, Fresh Meat began this month to sell local fish like tuna and bottom fish such as *kindai*, *pakapaka* which is popular with the local community,” he said.

“We have been getting feedback from our customers that our products are affordable because they are reasonably priced. At the same time, we are delivering to customers/



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fresh Market serves only fresh meat, seafood, and produce every day from 9am to 8pm.

retail shop by ourselves. That is a big factor that is why we can reduce our cost and serve at reasonable prices...we also sell vegetables like potatoes, sweet potatoes, cabbage, etc. from our local farmers,” he added.

Fresh Meat is located next to Winner's Laundry in Garapan. They are open Monday-Sunday, from 9am to 8pm. For more information, call (670) 233-6328 or visit their Facebook and Instagram pages: Fresh Meat Saipan.

## Reversing Trump, Buttigieg reinstates local hiring program

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg on Wednesday reinstated an Obama-era pilot program that aims to aid minority and disadvantaged people by ensuring local hiring for public works construction projects, reversing a decision by the Trump administration.

Buttigieg made the announcement after touring the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge, a decades-old span across the Anacostia River that's undergoing a massive reconstruction. The bridge project was launched under the local hiring rules that Buttigieg is bringing back.

“We know this can work because it worked right here,” Buttigieg said. “It's such a great example of the things we're talking about.”

The Transportation Department's four-year pilot initiative, originally launched by the Obama administration in 2015, will permit state and local agencies receiving federal transit or highway money to impose local hiring preferences, such as those favoring veterans, minorities and low-income workers.

Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser said that imposing the hiring preferences can “take a little longer on the front end” of a project. But it allows local governments a measure of control over the way infrastructure dollars flow through the community, she said.

The program had been

scrapped by President Donald Trump in 2017, reverting to rules set during President Ronald Reagan's administration, which prohibited geographic-based hiring preferences.

But as President Joe Biden pushed a \$2.3 trillion infrastructure plan geared toward creating millions of jobs,

a range of advocacy groups and Democratic senators urged Buttigieg to roll out a new local hiring program, saying that the federally funded construction projects could dole out ways for local residents to access well-paying jobs and revitalize regional economies.

**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB21-CHCC/CGC-BHRP-001**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 21, 2021 • TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)**

**“LEASE OF VEHICLES”**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORA P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**RFP21-CHCC/CGC-BHRP-002**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 21, 2021 • TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)**

**“OFFICE LEASE”**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORA P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



Eliceo D. Cabrera  
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)



Janice E. Castro  
Director, DCRM

## NOTICE TO ALL MARINE SPORTS OPERATORS ON SAIPAN, TINIAN & ROTA

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) recognizes the economic hardship that CNMI marine sports operators have experienced, and continue to experience, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NMIAC § 15-10-205(h)(4) requires all commercial marine sports permits to expire on May 30th each year. To assist the marine sports community during these challenging times, the renewal fee for commercial marine sports operators whose permit(s) were renewed last year and are set to expire on May 30, 2021, shall be waived. To avail of a permit fee waiver, all currently permitted marine sports operators on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota must submit a complete application package to DCRM on or before May 30, 2021.

Marine sports operations that did not renew their permit last year are not eligible for a fee waiver. For more information, contact DCRM at 664-8300.

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO  
DCRM Director



# House backs commission on Jan. 6 riot over GOP objections

Police with lead pipes across the head, and we can't get bipartisanship? What else has to happen in this country?" shouted Rep. Tim Ryan, D-Ohio, on the floor just before the vote. He said the GOP opposition is "a slap in the face to every rank and file cop in the United States."

The vote was yet another test of Republican loyalty to Trump, whose grip on the party remains strong despite his election defeat. House Republicans booted Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney from their leadership last week for her criticism of Trump's false claims, installing a Trump loyalist in her place. Cheney, in turn, suggested to ABC News that a commission could subpoena McCarthy because he spoke to Trump during the insurrection.

as it is,” Carol Heckman, an attorney for Prairie Band, said in a court hearing last week. “We’re happy to keep talking about it, but Treasury would have to sweeten the pie.”

The Miccosukee Tribe amended its lawsuit Wednesday to reflect the latest arguments.

The Treasury Department will avoid much of the problems it encountered with CARES Act funding in the distribution of the \$20 billion for tribes under the American Rescue Plan Act. The department said it will use tribally certified enrollment figures to pay out \$12.35 billion and tribal employment data for \$6.65 billion.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

PHOEBE GRACE K. REIONG Petitioner,	)	
	)	
vs	)	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 20-0336
	)	
WENCESLAU A. REIONG Respondent,	)	SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 505694 CK Saipan as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 6th day of November, 2020.

/s/ Clerk of Court



# World

## Israel's Netanyahu 'determined' to continue Gaza operation

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip** (AP)—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed Wednesday to press ahead with a fierce military offensive in the Gaza Strip, pushing back against calls from the United States to wind down the operation that has left hundreds dead.

Netanyahu's tough comments marked the first public rift between the two close allies since the fighting began last week and could complicate international efforts to reach a cease-fire. His push-back also plunges the pair into a difficult early test of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Israel continued to pound Hamas targets in Gaza with airstrikes, while Palestinian militants bombarded Israel with rocket fire throughout the day. In another sign of potential escalation, militants in Lebanon fired a rocket barrage into northern Israel.

After a visit to military

headquarters, Netanyahu said he appreciated "the support of the American president," but he said Israel would push ahead to return "calm and security" to Israeli citizens.

He said he was "determined to continue this operation until its aim is met."

He spoke shortly after U.S. President Joe Biden told Netanyahu that he expected "a significant de-escalation today on the path to a cease-fire," the White House said.

Biden had previously avoided pressing Israel more directly and publicly for a cease-fire with Gaza's Hamas militant rulers. But pressure has been building for Biden to intervene more forcefully as other diplomatic efforts gather strength.

Egyptian negotiators have also been working to halt the fighting, and an Egyptian diplomat said top officials were waiting for Israel's response to a cease-fire offer. The diplomat

spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

Moussa Abu Marzouk, a top Hamas official, told the Lebanese station Mayadeen TV that he expected a cease-fire in a day or two.

Meanwhile, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said he would fly to the region

Thursday for talks with Israelis and Palestinians.

Israel's Foreign Ministry said the foreign ministers of Slovakia and the Czech Republic would join him after being invited "to express their solidarity and support" for Israel.

Earlier in the day, the Israeli military said it was widening

its strikes on militant targets in southern Gaza to blunt continuing rocket fire from Hamas. At least nine people were killed Wednesday in the Gaza Strip.

The current round of fighting between Israel and Hamas began May 10, when the militant group fired long-range rockets toward Jerusalem after

days of clashes between Palestinian protesters and Israeli police at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, a flashpoint site sacred to Jews and Muslims. Heavy-handed police tactics at the compound and the threatened eviction of dozens of Palestinian families by Jewish settlers had inflamed tensions.

## India sets global record for daily coronavirus deaths

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—India on Wednesday reported more coronavirus deaths in a single day than any other country at any time during the pandemic, while infections continued to spread through vast rural areas with weak health systems.

The Health Ministry reported a record 4,529 deaths in the past 24 hours, driving India's confirmed fatalities to 283,248. It also reported 267,334 new infections, as daily cases remained below 300,000 for the third consecu-

tive day. The numbers are almost certainly undercounts.

The previous record for most daily deaths from the coronavirus was set on Jan. 12 in the United States, when 4,475 people died, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

With over 25 million cases since the pandemic began, India's confirmed infections are second only to the U.S.

Experts say new infections in India, which had been rising steeply, may finally be slowing. But deaths have continued

to rise and hospitals are still crowded with patients. Over the last month, India's COVID-19 fatalities have jumped six-fold.

While megacities such as Mumbai and New Delhi have seen signs of improvement in recent days, there is concern that the virus is spreading through the vast countryside where a majority of the people live and where health care and testing are limited.

The situation is particularly alarming in Uttar Pradesh, India's most-populous state with 200 million people,

where a court Monday said citizens have been left "at God's mercy." Even though new cases have been declining over the past week, the state has more than 136,000 confirmed active infections.

Government officials are racing to limit the spread of the virus in the state's villages. Teams have reached nearly 90,000 villages and the virus has been detected in about 21,000 of them, the Press Trust of India news agency cited senior health official Amit Mohan Prasad as saying.



### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

## MVA IS HIRING!!!!!!!

Opening Date: 05/17/2021 Closing Date: 05/31/2021

JVA#21-001: Marketing Specialist II  
JVA#21-002: Graphic Artist  
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 or visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com) for more details.



### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

## INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB21-ZB-093

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 04, 2021 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

### "36 MONTHS LEASE FOR ONE MULTIFUNCTION OFFICE PRINTER FOR THE COMMONWEALTH ZONING BOARD OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ GERALYN C. DELACRUZ  
ADMINISTRATOR, CNMI ZONING BOARD

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: May 4, 2021 Closing Date: June 4, 2021

**POSITION:** INVESTIGATOR I  
**EXAMINATION NO.:** OPA-21-003

For more information, please visit our website at [www.opacnmi.com](http://www.opacnmi.com) or come visit us at our office in Capitol Hill. Interested persons may also pick up a copy of the Examination Announcement at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Garapan.



**Office of the Public Auditor**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Website: <http://opacnmi.com>  
Address: 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950  
Mailing Address: PO Box 501399, Saipan MP 96950  
Email: [mail@opacnmi.com](mailto:mail@opacnmi.com)  
Phone: (670) 322-6481 Fax: (670) 322-7812



### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

## INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB21-OGM-088

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 04, 2021 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

### "LEASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "I" SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE-4WD THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

\*FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY\*\*

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO MR. EPIPHANIO CABRERA, ADMINISTRATOR OF OGM, VIA EMAIL TO [epc.cabrera@gov.mp](mailto:epc.cabrera@gov.mp) NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY 17, 2021. ALL QUESTIONS SUBMITTED AFTER THE GIVEN DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED. QUESTIONS SUBMITTED/ANSWERS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL BIDDERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.  
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

## INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB21-DOF/ITS-094 (A/B)

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 04, 2021 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

### "(A) PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "F" PICK-UP TRUCK-4WD/FOUR (4) FULL DOOR (B) PURCHASE OF TWO (2) CLASS "J" VAN (7 PASSENGER CAPACITY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ DAVID DLG. ATALIG  
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



### NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp) | Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairperson of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Board Meeting is scheduled on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance. In compliance with the CNMI COVID-19 guidelines, Face-masks must be worn, social distancing will be enforced, and not more than ten (10) people will be allowed in the conference room during the course of the meeting.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - c. Adoption of Agenda
  - d. Adoption of Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. CDBG-DR Policies and Procedures for Adoption or Approval
    1. Tourism Marketing Policy
    2. Homebuyer Policy
    3. Infrastructure Policy
    4. Workforce Development Training Scholarship Program Policy
    5. New Construction for Homeownership Policy
    6. Homeowners Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Policy
    7. Affordable Rental Housing Development Policy
    8. Rental Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and New Construction Program Policies
- V. NEW BUSINESS
- VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT
- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VIII. OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE ABOVE MATTERS
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

(Notes: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13 (a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/  
Merced (Marcie) M. Tomokane  
Chairperson of the Board



### COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055  
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962  
Website: [www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)

### CNMI Government

## INVITATION FOR BID

### PROJECT NO.: CPA-IFB-004-21 BIDS SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 11, 2021, TIME: 2:00 P.M. PROCUREMENT OF ONE (1) UNIT TRACTOR & MOWER FOR THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TINIAN

THE BID PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES THE EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS AND OTHER CONSIDERATION IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING MAY 4TH, 2021 AT THE CPA ADMIN OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARRIVAL BUILDING.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES OF THE BIDS TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: "PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-004-21". BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION \$40-50-1020, \$40-50-1015, & \$40-50-1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, FINANCIAL INTEREST, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



# Off The Wall

## Woman says \$26M lottery ticket is destroyed in wash

**NORWALK, Calif. (AP)**—The winner of a \$26 million California Lottery prize may have literally washed the chance of a fortune down the drain.

The winning SuperLotto Plus ticket for the Nov. 14 drawing was sold at an Arco AM/PM convenience store in the Los Angeles suburb of Norwalk. Thursday was the last day to redeem it.

Nobody did.

Store employee Esperanza Hernandez told the Whittier Daily News that a woman came in Wednesday and told workers that she had put the ticket in her pants and it was destroyed in the laundry.

The store's manager told KTLA-TV that surveillance video showed the woman who bought the ticket, and she's known to store workers.

A copy of the surveillance video was turned over to California Lottery officials, the manager said.

The claim will be investigated, lottery spokeswoman Cathy Johnston said.

Lottery officials say someone who believes he or she is a winner must complete a claim form. But if someone loses a ticket, they must provide evidence that they owned it, such as a photograph of the front and back of the ticket, the officials said.

The winning numbers were: 23, 36, 12, 31, 13, and the mega number of 10. The \$26 million prize can be taken in annual installments or as a \$19.7 million cash option.

If the prize isn't claimed, the \$19.7 million will go to California public schools.

The store that sold the ticket will receive a \$130,000 bonus.

It's uncommon for large jackpots to go unclaimed, officials said.

Four prizes of \$20 million or more haven't been claimed since 1997, including a \$63 million prize from 2015, lottery spokesman Jorge De La Cruz told the Los Angeles Times.

## Hundreds line up for blooming 'corpse flower'

**ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP)**—Residents of a San Francisco Bay Area city flocked to an abandoned gas station to get a whiff of a corpse flower—so-called because of the stench it emits when it blooms—after its owner decided to share the rare plant with his neighbors.

Solomon Leyva, a nursery owner in Alameda who deals in exceptionally rare plants, had been posting on social media about his *amorphophallus titanum*. When he saw a lot of interest in the giant blooming flower, he decided to wheel it Monday to the abandoned building, where a line of people stretched down the block for most of the day, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

"I grabbed my wagon, went down to my greenhouse, put it in with the help of a friend of mine, dragged it down here to this abandoned building and people just started showing up," Leyva said.

Leyva relaxed in a camping chair at the old Art Deco gas



PETER HARTLAUB/SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE VIA AP

People line up to take photos with a rare corpse flower in Alameda, Calif., on May 17, 2021.

station and patiently answered the same questions again and again. He estimated that by 4 p.m., at least 1,200 residents had visited the flower.

"Everyone is commenting to me that the last time they've seen this was in San Francisco, and there was a barrier, and they had to wait for hours, and they weren't allowed to get

near it," Leyva said. "I think everyone's tripping out that they can walk up and wiggle it and smell it."

Himanshu and Sayali Jain brought their 3-year-old son after following the flower on social media.

"I just wanted to thank him, because I thought we'd never get to see it," Sayali Jain said.

where they found people who acknowledged holding a gender reveal party with explosives. The source was Tannerite—80 pounds (36 kilograms) of it, police said. No injuries were reported, police said.

### 111-year-old Australian recommends eating chicken brains

**CANBERRA, Australia (AP)**—Australia's oldest-ever man has included eating chicken brains among his secrets to living more than 111 years. Retired cattle rancher Dexter Kruger on Monday marked 124 days since he

turned 111, a day older than World War I veteran Jack Lockett was when he died in 2002. Kruger told Australian Broadcasting Corp. in an interview at his nursing home in the rural Queensland state town of Roma days before the milestone that a weekly poultry delicacy had contributed to his longevity. "Chicken brains. You know, chickens have a head. And in there, there's a brain. And they are delicious little things," Kruger said. "There's only one little bite." Kruger's 74-year-old son Greg credits his father's simple Outback lifestyle for his long life.

# Science & Technology

## Where did Columbus come from?

**MADRID (AP)**—Was Christopher Columbus really from Genoa, in Italy? Or was he Spanish? Or, as some other theories have it, was he Portuguese or Croatian or even Polish?

A definitive answer to the question of where the famous explorer came from could be just five months away as international scientists on Wednesday launched an effort to read the DNA from his remains and identify his geographic origin.

Their findings are to be made public in October.

Knowledge of the 15th-century navigator's early life is scant.

A major breakthrough in establishing a fuller profile of the man who died 515 years ago came after DNA tests in 2003 established that bones in a tomb in the cathedral of Seville were those of Columbus.

But after that discovery, the research team from Spain's University of Granada that is leading the Columbus research decided to halt its investigation. The reason: DNA technology at the time

was neither accurate nor reliable and required a significant amount of genetic material.

After leaps in the sophistication of DNA testing in recent years, gene geography may now ascertain the rough area of a European person's ancestry.

José Antonio Lorente, a professor of forensic medicine at Granada University, said there had been a "radical" improvement in DNA analysis, which now permits tests on very small fragments.

## Researchers find origins of Florida monkey colony

**DANIA BEACH, Fla. (AP)**—A colony of monkeys has lived for about 70 years in urban South Florida, near jets taking off from a nearby airport and fuel storage tanks.

No one was quite sure where they came from. Until now.

Researchers at Florida Atlantic University say they

have traced the colony's origins to the Dania Chimpanzee Farm. The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported Wednesday there was a monkey escape from the farm in 1948, with most of the monkeys recaptured. But not all of them.

The rest disappeared into a mangrove swamp, where their

descendants live today. The FAU team said the colony currently numbers about 41.

The FAU researchers traced the monkeys' genetics and concluded they were brought to Florida from Africa. The monkeys were sold mainly for medical and military research.

## TECH Q&A: Why some photos are missing from e-mails or websites

**Q: I'm sending you an e-mail that I received from an online retailer. It contains some product pictures and some question marks where product pictures should be. This also happens with other e-mails and websites that I view. I'm using the Google Chrome browser, a MacBook Air laptop and Comcast internet service. What's wrong?**

**A:** I was able to see all the images in the e-mail you sent me, even though I also use the Chrome browser and Comcast internet service. That suggests there's a difference between either our browsers or our internet connections.

Here are some browser problems you might have:

■ **Browser congestion.** Clear the Chrome browser's cache (previously stored website data) and cookies (bits of code stored in your browser that identify you to websites.) This often helps browser performance. (For directions, see [tinyurl.com/2mpus4cb](https://tinyurl.com/2mpus4cb)).

■ **Your version of the Chrome browser may be old.** Try updating it or downloading a new copy (see [tinyurl.com/3zw6hww8](https://tinyurl.com/3zw6hww8)).

■ **Your security software may be blocking some images from downloading.** Try briefly disabling your antivirus software, then see if the missing photos appear on your screen. If they do, you'll need to set the security software to make an "exception"

**By STEVE ALEXANDER**  
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: [steve.j.alexander@gmail.com](mailto:steve.j.alexander@gmail.com). Please include a full name, city and phone number.



for the website you're viewing. Here are some potential internet connection issues:

■ **Slow internet speed** can delay the downloading of website pictures, which contain more data than text does. While you have a fast cable internet connection, there are things that can slow it down, such as Comcast technical issues, internet congestion problems or bottlenecks in your home computer network (see [tinyurl.com/hfk-3kauf](https://tinyurl.com/hfk-3kauf)). Check your actual internet speed (see [tinyurl.com/dxxxht8](https://tinyurl.com/dxxxht8)) against the internet speed you're paying for.

■ **Some website photos** download more slowly than others, and sometimes you have to wait for them. Why? Website operators long ago learned not to let consumers download all the photos on a website at once. It made the website slow to appear in your browser (meaning you might get bored and look elsewhere) and it was wasteful, because most people didn't view all the pictures.

The solution for website operators was to give top pri-

ority to downloading the pictures you first see on the website, and second priority to the photos you would see if you scrolled down the page. As a result, many of the pictures in an online catalog don't download until you scroll down the page to look at them (website operators refer to this as "lazy loading.") A slowed-down internet connection will make this worse.

**Q: My iPhone connects via Bluetooth to my 2020 Ford Escape. But when I play music, some of the songs are skipped. There seems to be no pattern to the skipping; it happens on songs purchased from iTunes and others copied from CDs. What can I do?**

**A:** It's most likely a problem with Ford's Sync dashboard software, which connects to your iPhone. Several people have complained that the software skips songs when connected to a phone via Bluetooth. See [tinyurl.com/yb4bsx44](https://tinyurl.com/yb4bsx44) for Sync troubleshooting tips and [tinyurl.com/d7f64ntv](https://tinyurl.com/d7f64ntv) for Sync updating instructions.

### OFFBEAT BRIEFS

#### Man charged in gender reveal blast that rocked nearby towns

**KINGSTON, N.H. (AP)**—A man was charged Monday for an explosive gender reveal party that was heard by nearby residents in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Anthony Spinelli, of Kingston, was charged with disorderly conduct, police said. It wasn't immediately known if he had a lawyer and a phone number couldn't be found for him. Police in Kingston, a town not far from the Massachusetts stateline, received reports of a loud explosion the night of April 20. They responded to Torromeo quarry,



# Life & Style

## Actor Masterson's ex says she had to pull hair to stop rape

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A woman testified Wednesday that she was five years into a relationship with actor Danny Masterson when she awoke to find he had begun having sex with her as she slept, as happened often.

She didn't want it, she said, but had always accepted it. This time, she fought back.

"I tried pushing him off me and saying no," the woman, identified in court only as

Christina B., said. "He wouldn't stop. So I did something that I knew would make him angry and likely to get off me. I pulled his hair. He has these rules, 'no touch hair rule,' 'no touch face rule.' He

had this thing about his hair, so I knew if I pulled it really, really hard, he would get off



**Masterson**

me. But what he did was he hit me."

Christina B. was the second of three accusers of the 45-year-old "That '70s Show" actor to testify in Los Angeles Superior Court at a preliminary hearing to deter-

mine whether there is enough evidence to order Masterson to stand trial on three counts

of rape. Masterson has pleaded not guilty. His lawyer Thomas Mesereau said he would prove his innocence, and said the interaction in Wednesday's testimony was not rape.

The November incident Christine B. described came in November 2001, in the house

she and Masterson would share throughout their six-year relationship. Under questioning from Deputy District Attorney Reinhold Mueller, she said he hit her across the face with a loosely held fist then finally stopped, spat on her and called her "white trash."

The Associated Press does not typically name people who say they were victims of sexual abuse.

During cross-examination, Mesereau said that she was telling a different story than she had in her interviews with police and prosecutors.

## 'I am proud.' Demi Lovato comes out as nonbinary

Singer Demi Lovato revealed on Wednesday they identify as nonbinary and are changing their pronouns, telling fans the decision came after "self-reflective work."

"Today is a day I'm so happy to share more of my life with you all—I am proud to let you know that I identify as non-binary," Lovato announced on Twitter and in an



**Lovato**

accompanying video, adding they will "officially be changing my pronouns to they/them moving forward."

Lovato said they picked gender-neutral pronouns as "this best represents the fluidity I feel in my gender expression." They added, "I'm doing this for those out there that haven't been able to share who they truly are with

their loved ones."

Anthony Allen Ramos of GLAAD said nonbinary people live outside the categories of male or female and should be respected for who they are.

"Demi has always been one of the loudest and proudest advocates for LGBTQ people and issues. In sharing their story today, they will educate countless people around the world and reach other nonbinary people with a message of pride," Ramos said in a statement. (AP)

## Schwarzenegger, Abrams make pitch for movie theater return

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Arnold Schwarzenegger chanted with enthusiasm, "We are back! We are back!" before he spoke Wednesday about the importance of resurrecting the theatrical experience for moviegoers.

"Now it's time to get back to the big screen," Schwarzenegger told a socially distanced audience at AMC Century City 15 theater in Los Angeles.

The actor and former California governor was joined by filmmakers and major Hollywood studio executives as part of the "Big Screen is Back"

initiative. Other speakers included J.J. Abrams, Maggie Q, Sam Richardson, Janicza Bravo and David Bruckner.

"If you have the movie and you don't have the theaters, you don't have nothing," Schwarzenegger said. "Yes, we've seen over the past year in the pandemic, that people watch movies on their little iPhone and iPad and put on their glasses to see what's going on there. They are missing special and visual effects and all the great stuff you usually see on the big screen."

The gathering was one of the first in-person events for

the industry to showcase its biggest upcoming projects. The three-hour event also featured movie clips and trailers from Disney, Sony and other studios.

Extended footage was shown from Warner Bros.' "In the Heights," Disney's "Cruella," Universal's "F9," Paramount's "Snake Eyes" and Aretha Franklin's biopic "Respect" from MGM Studios/United Artist Releasing.

Each speaker encouraged the return to theaters as the industry moves to rebound after the pandemic created life without theaters about a year ago.

## Cher's star power helps rescue the 'loneliest elephant'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Cher's rescue of an elephant long held in dismal conditions is a one-of-a-kind story, as would be expected from the singular star.

Even she was surprised by what her efforts—in concert with a team of animal aid groups, wildlife veterinarians and Pakistan's legal system—achieved for Kaavan, she said during a panel discussion taping.

"I don't know anything about this. I'm just an entertainer. I can't save this elephant," Cher recalled thinking when the animal's plight was brought to her attention by what she calls "the kids" on her Twitter feed.

They demanded Kaavan's release from a ramshackle, now-closed zoo in Islamabad, Pakistan, which launched the quest detailed in "Cher & the Loneliest Elephant," debuting Wednesday on the Smithsonian Channel.

Cher accepted the challenge after seeing a photo of the 4-ton animal chained in a solitary, cramped enclosure and in apparent ill health, both physical and emotional.

Recalling a brief meeting with businessman Mark Cowne and his interest in wildlife, she sought his help. The result was Free The Wild, an organization co-founded by Cher, Cowne, Gine Nelthorpe

Cowne and Jennifer Ruiz to advocate for Kaavan, which turned into a four-year effort.

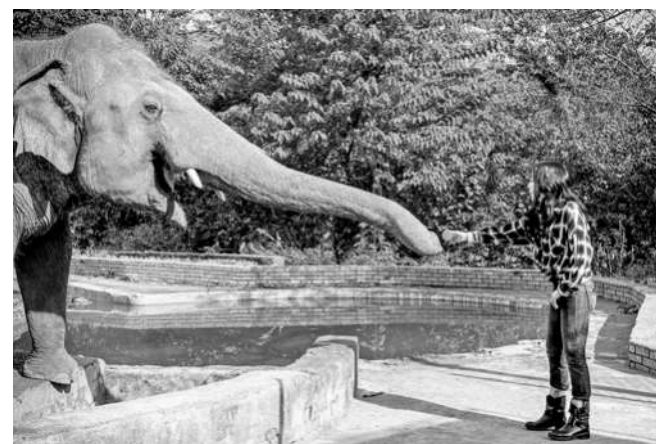
(Free The Wild's expanded mission is to "stop the suffering of wild animals in captivity" and gain their release to sanctuaries or better-equipped zoos, according to its website.) Cher recorded a song, "Walls," to amplify the growing social-media clamor for Kaavan's release, and her involvement went far beyond her comfort zone: She flew to Pakistan amid the COVID-19 pandemic when, she said, the government made it a condition of Kaavan's transfer to a sanctuary in Cambodia after the zoo's court-ordered closure.

Her trademark candor is on

exhibit in the documentary, in which she admits to hesitation about the journey that she and a small group of intimates were about to make.

"I kept saying to my friends ... 'Are we really going to Pakistan? Is this really happening?'" she recounted during the panel discussion about her efforts and the documentary's production. "Then I just went, 'Yeah, come on, you're doing it. Stop playing around and just do it.'"

It wasn't just trepidation weighing on her, Cher said. There had been so many times that it looked like the effort would fall short that she honestly began to wonder if "anybody would be all that interested" in what was being attempted.



AP

This image released by The Smithsonian Channel shows Cher feeding elephant Kaavan in a scene from the documentary, "Cher & The Loneliest Elephant."

## Visit to grandma's house complicated by stroke recovery

**DEAR ABBY:** My grandma, who is in her 80s, had a stroke recently. She has trouble swallowing and speaking, so she's in a rehab facility 20 miles from her home, where she is doing strengthening exercises. She tires out from just walking around her room, so it's not yet clear if she will become a permanent resident or discharged with home health nurses. We are distraught over this.

My husband and I were originally planning to visit her this summer—our annual vacation—for a few days. She lives 12 hours from us. I was going to ask her if we were welcome, but she had the stroke before I could. I'd like to ask her if she'd mind if we still visit and, if it's OK with her, stay in her house, so I can visit her at the facility if she hasn't been discharged.

My mother thinks this is a bad idea. We have a 6-year-old and a 3-year-old, and Mom thinks they would be too much for Grandma. Abby, I don't want my grandma to die before I get to see her again. We haven't seen her in four years. But after talking with Mom, I'm now hesitant to ask. The thought of missing a chance to see her one last time hurts my heart. What should we do?

MISS HER IN MISSISSIPPI

**DEAR MISS:** Listen to your mother because what she's saying makes sense. If your grandmother is discharged with home nursing care, there won't be enough room for

your family. Two small, active children may, indeed, be more than she can deal with in her weakened condition. Because it's important for you to see your grandmother, make other lodging arrangements for your family when you're in town, and keep your visits with her short and as stress-free as possible.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been married for 25 years, some good and some bad. The hardest thing for me is that when my husband is upset with me, he stops talking to me. If I ask if something's wrong, he won't answer or says "nothing" is wrong. I have explained repeatedly how upsetting this is because I never know what I did, and then, sure enough, I do it again.

He says he doesn't want to say anything hurtful, but can't he tell me why he's upset and not be hurtful? He also accuses me of creating drama when I get upset because I'm trying to figure out what I did wrong. Then, when I do it again, he's like, "We discussed this."

I have tried not talking until he's ready, but, again, there is no resolution, and I'm getting very resentful that the ball is always in his court. How do I handle this?

EXHAUSTED IN NEW YORK

**DEAR EXHAUSTED:** An effective way to handle this

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

would be for you to insist the two of you discuss with a licensed marriage therapist how to more effectively communicate. The ball is always in your husband's court because he has maneuvered it to be, and it isn't playing fair. In fact, it is emotional abuse. Do not expect him to like the suggestion, and don't be surprised if he refuses to go. If that happens, you should go anyway. His behavior is passive-aggressive.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



# Pastimes

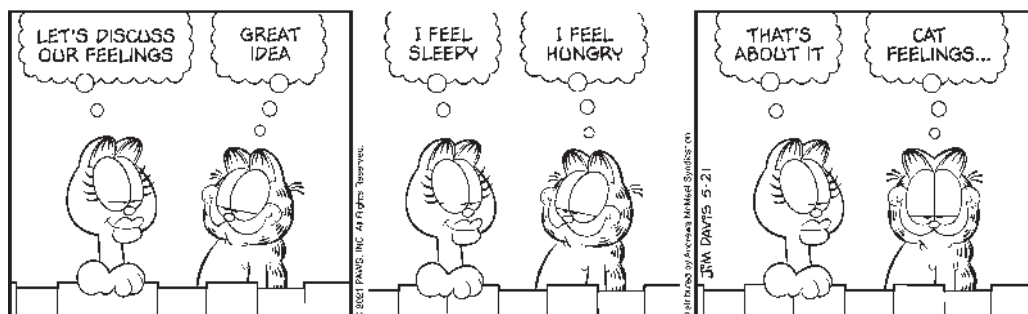
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

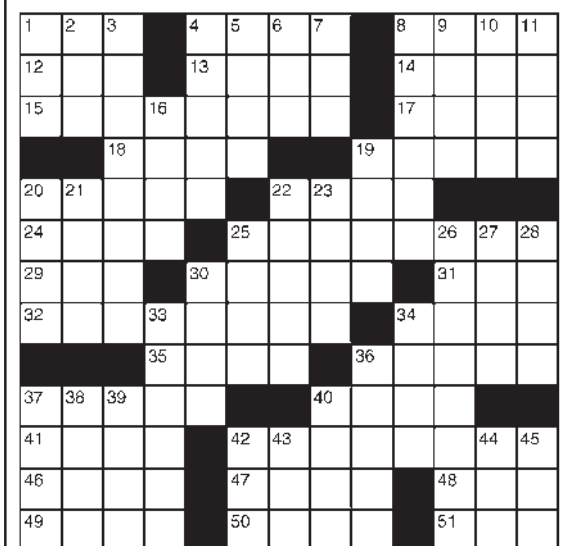
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**Solution time: 25 mins.**

Yesterday's answer 5-21



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

## CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Fairuza Balk, 47; Nick Cassavetes, 62; Mr. T, 69; Judge Reinhold, 64.

**Happy Birthday:** Ease into whatever you want to accomplish this year to avoid taking on too much or underestimating the cost. Play it safe, focus on details and what's important to you, and leave nothing to chance. You'll get the results you want — and more. Verify information, and say no to temptation. Everything will turn in your favor. Your numbers are 7, 15, 22, 31, 34, 40, 49.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Follow a path that interests you, and you will find it easier to reach your goal. Discipline and hard work will get you where you want to go. Don't fixate on what's happening at the moment; focus on your long-term aspiration. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Take on as much as possible, and show everyone what you are capable of doing. Put your energy where it counts and leave nothing to chance. Be honest, and demand the same in return. Question anyone confusing or misleading. \*\*\*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Be careful when dealing with sensitive issues. Someone will use information you share against you. Keep personal matters to yourself, and focus on taking care of your responsibilities. Emotional manipulation is apparent if you let down your guard or trust too freely. \*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Too much time to think or worry will lead to an emotional outburst. If you focus on what you want to accomplish, you will develop a plan

that will help you turn your space into a productive workplace. \*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Talk to someone you enjoy collaborating with, and solutions that help you improve your position, status or reputation will transpire. A serious talk with someone you love will lead to personal stability and a better future. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Emotions will be difficult to control. Refrain from getting into a debate with someone who will never see things your way. Concentrate on making changes that will improve your life and the way you live. Make personal growth a priority. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Someone will offer you suggestions to help you get ahead. An online course or networking opportunity will introduce you to something or someone who will give you inside information. Make plans with someone you love, and it will bring you closer. \*\*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Touch base with someone you find inspiring. Exchange thoughts and feelings, and it will help you put things in perspective. Don't jeopardize a friendship, regardless of the offer. Don't make a change or move if it will put you into debt. \*\*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Promise only what's possible. If you say something, be prepared to back your claims. Discipline will pay off when it comes to your health and relationships. Stick to the truth, abide by the rules and live within your means. \*\*

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD  
IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Put everything in its place, and finish what you start. Don't leave anything to chance or allow anyone to take advantage of you. Anger is a waste of time, and regret will lead to stress. Do things right the first time. \*\*\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Stop worrying about what others are doing. Don't feel you have to tag along or follow someone's lead. Concentrate on your happiness and doing the things you enjoy most. Spend time with someone who brings out the best in you. \*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Refuse to let someone annoy you. Spend time getting back to the basics and activities you enjoy doing most. A creative outlet will inspire you to make time in your daily routine for things that make you happy. \*\*\*

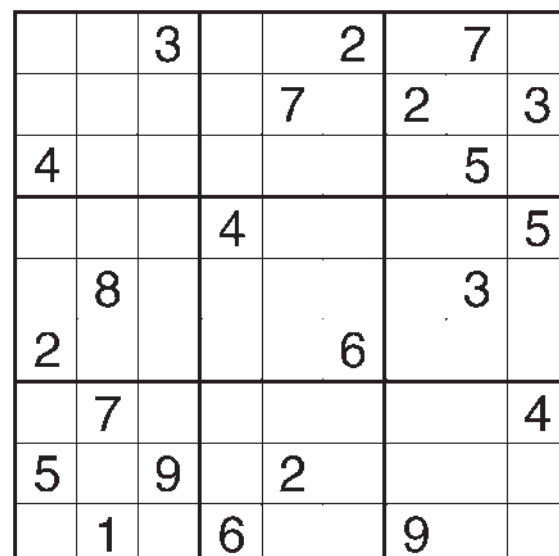
**Birthday Baby:** You are outspoken, persuasive and relentless. You are intelligent and vexing.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

## SUDOKU

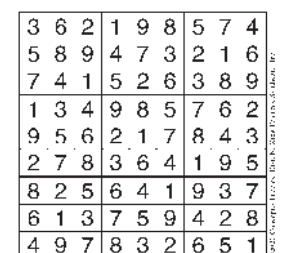
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/21

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

AMAZON IS BUSIER THAN EVER

Solution: 5 letters



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5/21

Accounts, Alexa, Arts, Associates, Audio, Automotive, Baby, Beauty, Books, Card, Data, Deal, Echo, Entry, Fitness, Food, Garden, Grocery, Hiring, Home, Hunting, Kids, Lighting, Linens, Mail, Marketing, Movies, Music, Orders, Pack, Parcel, Pick, Processing, Returns, Revenue, Sale, Ship, Shop, Sports, Stem, Stroller, Surge, Tool, Toys, Track, Vacuums, Video, Warehouse

Yesterday's Answer: The Insider

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# LeBron's 3 lifts Lakers over Warriors in West play-in game



**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—LeBron James made a long, go-ahead 3-pointer with 58.2 seconds remaining, rallying the Los Angeles Lakers to a 103-100 victory over the Golden State Warriors in a Western Conference play-in tournament game Wednesday night.

James finished with 22 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists for his sixth triple-double of the season. Anthony Davis scored 13 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter, and the Lakers overcame 37 points from league scoring champ Stephen Curry.

Golden State had a chance to send it into overtime, but Kent Bazemore had a bad inbound pass and sealed the victory for the Lakers—who earned the seventh seed for the playoffs and a first-round matchup with second-seeded Phoenix.

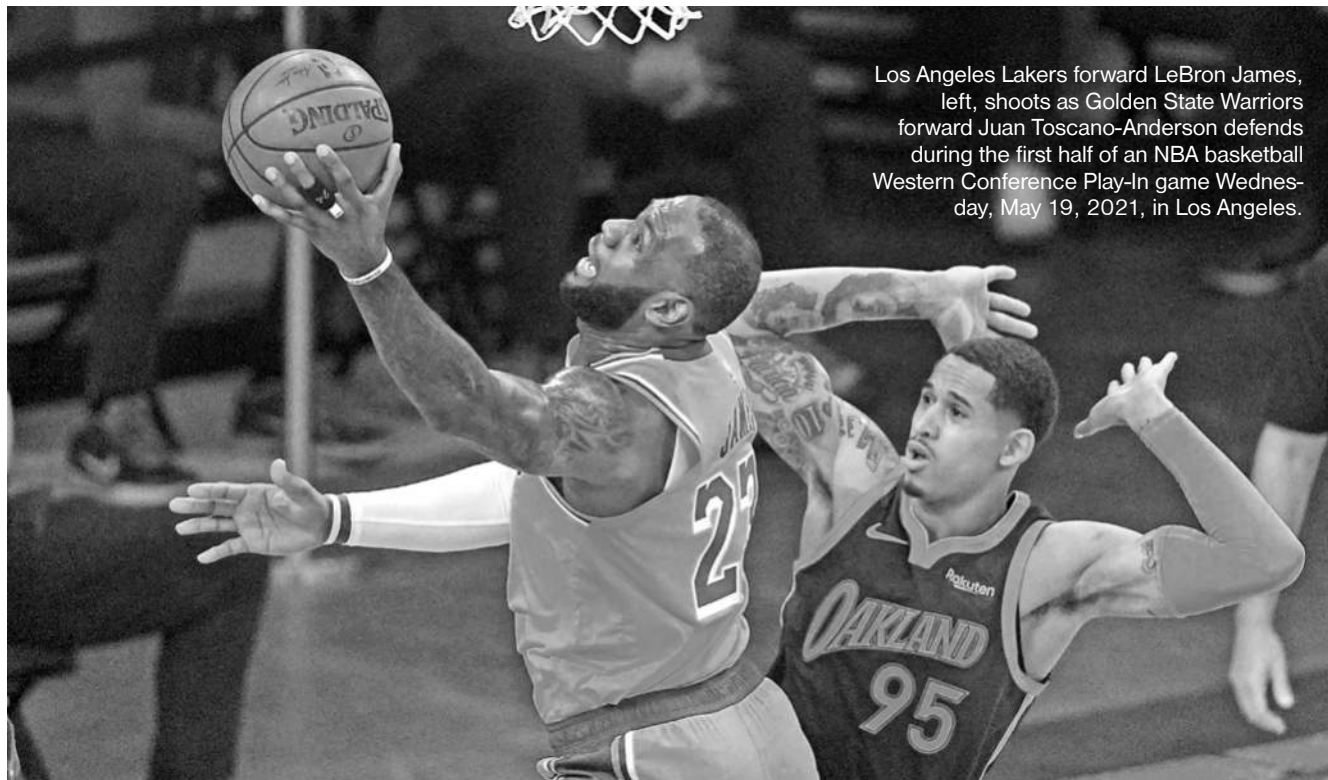
Golden State hosts Memphis, which defeated San Antonio in Wednesday's other play-in game, for the eighth seed on Friday. The winner of that game will face top-seeded Utah.

James and Davis were 3 of 19 from the field in the first half before getting back on track. They combined to go 14 of 22 in the second half.

Los Angeles trailed by 13 at halftime and were down by 12 midway through the third quarter before rallying back. The defending NBA champions didn't get their first lead until Kyle Kuzma's layup 56 seconds into the fourth quarter put them up 81-79.

The final 12 minutes saw three lead changes and five ties. The Warriors were up 98-95 on Curry's bank shot before the Lakers scored seven of the game's final nine points.

Alex Caruso scored 14 points and Dennis Schröder



Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James, left, shoots as Golden State Warriors forward Juan Toscano-Anderson defends during the first half of an NBA basketball Western Conference Play-In game Wednesday, May 19, 2021, in Los Angeles.

added 12.

Andrew Wiggins added 21 points for Golden State.

Golden State led 55-42 at halftime as Curry buried a 3-pointer at the buzzer. The Lakers opened the second half by going on a 14-2 run that included seven points by Dennis Schröder.

Schröder's 3-pointer drew Los Angeles within a point at 57-56, but he fouled Curry when he attempted a shot beyond the arc.

Curry made all three of his shots to start a 15-4 spurt by the Warriors. Curry's fourth 3-pointer of the night pushed Golden State's advantage to 72-60 before the Lakers regained control and ended the quarter with a 17-7 rally.

Golden State took a 9-2 lead as it made four of its first five shots from the field, while the Lakers missed six of their first seven. The Warriors extended their first-quarter advantage to 15-4 when Wiggins hit a 3-pointer with 7:38 remaining

in the quarter.

The Lakers countered with a 12-2 run to get within one, but couldn't draw closer in the quarter as Golden State led 28-22 after 12 minutes.

The Warriors were up by five midway through the second quarter before steadily pulling out to a double-digit lead. Curry had 10 points in the period, including three 3-pointers in the final four minutes. His step-back shot from beyond the arc at the buzzer gave Golden State its largest lead of the first half.

## Grizzlies 100, Spurs 96

In Memphis, Tenn., the young Memphis Grizzlies finally have a play-in victory to their credit, yet they're nowhere near satisfied.

Dillon Brooks scored eight of his 24 points in the fourth quarter to put Memphis ahead to stay and the Grizzlies eliminated the San Antonio Spurs

100-96 on Wednesday night in the first Western Conference play-in game.

"It feels good, but I mean we're not in the playoffs yet," Grizzlies guard Ja Morant said. "Just have to turn the page."

The Grizzlies will play the Golden State Warriors or Los Angeles Lakers, who played later Wednesday night for the No. 7 seed, for the No. 8 seed Friday night and a first-round series starting Sunday against the top-seeded Utah Jazz.

Memphis is trying to snap a skid of three straight seasons without a postseason berth with last season ending with a loss to Portland in the NBA's first play-in game.

"We still have one more in front of us," Grizzlies center Jonas Valanciunas said. "Really important. The same importance as tonight. It's going to be do or die. That's how we build our confidence. That's how we build our experience."

Valanciunas had a season-

high 23 rebounds and 23 points for Memphis. Morant added 20 points and six assists. Jaren Jackson Jr. had 10 points.

DeMar DeRozan and Rudy Gay each scored 20 points as the Spurs lost their fifth straight. Dejounte Murray had his fifth triple-double with 10 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists. Keldon Johnson added 11 and Jacob Poeltl 10.

Coach Gregg Popovich said he told his Spurs he didn't know if he's ever been more proud of a team that just doesn't quit.

"No matter what the mistakes, no matter what the circumstances are, they really fight," Popovich said. "That's a good base. So, I'm really proud of the way they conducted themselves and played to win."

The Spurs last led 83-81 on Johnson's 3 with 6:55 left. Brooks started his scoring spurt with the Grizzlies trailing 80-79, and his driving 5-footer

with 5:57 to go put Memphis ahead to stay at 85-83.

"We put ourselves in a hole early, but we fought all the way back, and had the game," DeRozan said. "Let a couple of possessions slip away from us, and that kind of hurt us."

Memphis pulled out all the stops possible in a pandemic in the biggest home game since the Grizzlies' last play-off appearance in 2017 against these very Spurs.

Inside the FedExForum, capacity was doubled to 40% with a sellout of 7,019 fans, and a yellow towel proclaiming "NXT UP MEMPHIS" was on each seat. Rapper Al Kapone performed outside during halftime and was shown on the video board with fans joining in waving towels when he sang "Whoop That Trick."

In five playoff series between these teams, the Spurs swept three of the four San Antonio won. Memphis' only series victory came in 2011 as the then-No. 8 seed, the start of seven straight playoff seasons for the Grizzlies.

Those players are long gone.

On this night, the Grizzlies' next generation took over with a roster that was the second-youngest at the start of this season rebuilt around Jackson, the No. 4 overall draft pick in 2018, and Morant, the second overall draft pick in 2019 and reigning NBA Rookie of the Year.

The Grizzlies led 38-19 after the first quarter. The Spurs answered with a 22-3 run that pulled them within 41-39. But Morant ended Memphis' cold spurt with a dunk, and the Grizzlies led 56-49 at halftime.

The teams each scored 16 points in the third as this game turned into a battle. Memphis took a 72-65 lead into the fourth quarter.

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# Kluber tosses Yankees' 12th no-hitter, tops Rangers 2-0



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Corey Kluber

threw the the major leagues' sixth no-hitter this season and second in two nights, leading the New York Yankees over the Texas Rangers 2-0 on Wednesday night.

The 35-year-old right-hander, a two-time American League Cy Young Award winner, came within a four-pitch walk to Charlie Culberson in the third inning of throwing a perfect game. Kluber pitched his gem a night after Detroit's Spencer Turnbull threw one against Seattle, marking the first no-hitters on consecutive days since 1969.

Kluber (4-2) struck out nine and threw 71 of 101 pitches for strikes in his ninth start for the Yankees. Kluber was pitching on the mound when he was hurt after one inning last season for the Rangers, when he tore a muscle in his right shoulder on July 26 in his Texas debut.

It was the 12th no-hitter in Yankees history, the 11th in the regular season and the first since David Cone's perfect game against Montreal on July 18, 1999. It was the fifth against the Rangers, who were also at home April 9 when San Diego native Joe Musgrove threw the first no-hitter in Padres history.

New York got its only runs in the sixth inning on Tyler Wade's RBI triple and DJ LeMahieu's sacrifice fly against Hyeon-Jong Yang (0-1).

## Padres 3, Rockies 0

In San Diego, Fernando Tatis Jr. homered and went 4 for 4 in his first game back after testing positive for COVID-19, and San Diego beat Colorado for a three-game sweep.

Tatis, who had been out since May 11, finished a triple shy of hitting for the cycle in helping the Padres win their sixth straight game and for the ninth time in 10 games.

Jake Cronenworth had an inside-the-park home run and Joe Musgrove (4-4) struck out 11 in seven innings. Mark Melancon finished the two-hitter with a perfect ninth for his major league-leading 15th save.

Chi Chi Gonzalez (2-2) allowed two runs and four hits in six innings.

## Indians 3, Angels 2

In Anaheim, Calif., Josh Naylor drove in the tiebreaking run off Tony Watson (2-2) in the sixth, Aaron Civale pitched seven strong innings and Cleveland overcame Shohei Ohtani's latest do-everything performance for a victory over Los Angeles.

Jake Bauers homered and Franmil Reyes had an RBI double as Cleveland took the final two games of the series in



Anaheim after a four-game skid. Civale (6-1) yielded four hits and a walk while striking out eight. James Karinchak pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

Ohtani pitched five-hit ball into the fifth with five strikeouts for the Angels, and he subsequently moved from the mound to right field for 1 1/3 more innings, allowing him to get a third at-bat. The majors' home run leader went 1 for 3 at the plate with a bunt single. Ohtani pitched while he was also the majors' leader in homers for the third time this year, becoming the first player since Babe Ruth in 1919 to accomplish that feat multiple times in a season.

Jared Walsh homered for the Angels, who have lost six of eight. Los Angeles is 0-2 since losing Mike Trout for at least six weeks with a strained calf.

## Cardinals 8, Pirates 5

In St. Louis, Jack Flaherty earned his major league-leading eighth win of the season and St. Louis scored five runs in the second inning to beat Pittsburgh.

Flaherty (8-0) allowed two runs and four hits with four walks while striking out seven in six innings. He's the first Cardinals pitcher to win eight straight starts since John Tudor and Joaquín Andújar each accomplished the feat in 1985.

Kodi Whitely relived Flaherty in the seventh and allowed three runs on a walk and two hits without recording an out. Tyler Webb, Génesis Cabrera and Ryan Helsley bridged the gap to Alex Reyes who struck out the side in the ninth to earn his 13th save in as many opportunities.

Pirates starter Trevor Cahill

(1-5) allowed four runs on two hits, two walks and a hit batter. He departed the game suffering from left calf discomfort with the bases loaded and nobody out in the bottom of the second inning. Gregory Polanco hit a two-run homer, the first allowed by Flaherty in four May starts.

## White Sox 2, Twins 1

In Chicago, Lucas Giolito (3-4) struck out a season-high 11 and gave up two hits over eight innings, including Nelson Cruz's 10th homer and a single by Cruz.

Liam Hendricks pitched a perfect ninth for his ninth save.

Leury García hit a leadoff double against Matt Shoemaker (2-5) in the fifth inning and scored the tying run on an infield single by Adam Eaton. Then García gave the White Sox the lead with an RBI single in the sixth.

## Rays 9, Orioles 7

In Baltimore, Randy Arozarena hit two home runs, stole another with his glove and knocked in four runs, Ji-Man Choi drove in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning, and Tampa Bay rallied from a five-run deficit to beat Baltimore.

Mike Brosseau also homered for Tampa Bay, which has won a season-high six consecutive games. At 25-19, the Rays are six games above .500 for the first time this year. Ryan Thompson (3-2) pitched a scoreless seventh for Tampa Bay. Pete Fairbanks gave up a run in the ninth, but stranded two men to earn his first save since 2019.

Trey Mancini hit two home runs as part of a four-hit night and tied a career high with five

RBIs for Baltimore, which has dropped nine of 11 and fell to a majors-worst 6-17 at home. Paul Fry (0-1) took the loss.

## Marlins 3, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Brian Anderson homered on his 28th birthday to back Trevor Rogers, who pitched five-hit ball for 7 2/3 innings and led Miami over Philadelphia.

Adam Duvall and Jazz Chisholm Jr. also drove in runs for the Marlins, who won for just the second time in five games.

Rogers (6-2) gave up five hits, including Andrew McCutchen's sixth-inning homer. The 23-year-old rookie left-hander struck out eight and walked two. Yimi García finished with two-hit relief for his eighth save in nine chances. García stranded two when Andrew Knapp hit a game-ending flyout to the wall in right-center that was a few feet from winning it for the Phillies.

Zach Eflin (2-3) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings with six strikeouts and no walks. Philadelphia lost for the third time in four games.

## Braves 5, Mets 4

In Atlanta, Ronald Acuña Jr. homered on the first pitch in the bottom of the ninth inning and Atlanta topped New York after blowing an early two-run lead.

Acuña drilled the first pitch from Jacob Barnes (1-1) to center field for his NL-leading 13th homer. The Mets were denied a sweep of the three-game series.

Pinch-hitter Tomás Nido gave New York a 4-3 lead with a two-run single in the seventh.

The Braves pulled even in the eighth. Aaron Loup gave up three hits, including a run-

scoring single by William Contreras, without getting an out.

Will Smith (1-4) got the win as the Braves snapped a five-game home losing streak.

Charlie Morton left with a 3-1 lead after allowing two hits in six innings. The right-hander had eight strikeouts and no walks while adding a run-scoring single in Atlanta's three-run fifth.

Jonathan Villar's homer in the fourth gave the Mets a 1-0 lead.

## Nationals 4, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Juan Soto homered off Wrigley Field's right-field scoreboard, helping Max Scherzer win his third straight decision for Washington.

Soto became the 16th player to hit the scoreboard that was installed in 2012, hitting a 421-foot drive on a 3-2 slider in the fifth from Jake Arrieta (4-4) that gave Washington a 4-1 lead. Soto also singled twice.

Scherzer (4-2) allowed two runs and five hits in five innings with eight strikeouts and four walks. Kyle Finnegan, Daniel Hudson and Brad Hand combined on three-hit relief. Hand struck out three in the ninth for his fifth save in seven chances despite allowing Javier Báez's solo homer.

Arrieta yielded four runs on seven hits in five innings in his second start since coming off the injured list.

## Giants 4, Reds 0

In Cincinnati, Kevin Gausman gave up one hit over six strong innings, Buster Posey drove in three runs with a late double and San Francisco blanked Cincinnati.

Gausman (4-0) didn't allow a hit until Tucker Barnhart doubled leading off the fifth,

New York Yankees starting pitcher Corey Kluber celebrates after the final out by Texas Rangers' Willie Calhoun, as Kluber threw a no-hitter in a baseball game in Arlington, Texas, Wednesday, May 19, 2021.

and the Reds managed just two more hits the rest of the way against Giants relievers.

Mike Tauchman had an RBI single in the fifth for NL West-leading San Francisco. Posey padded the lead with a bases-loaded double in the ninth, one of his three hits.

Two starts removed from his no-hitter May 7 against Cleveland, left-hander Wade Miley (4-4) gave up a run and six hits through 4 2/3 innings for Cincinnati.

## Red Sox 7, Blue Jays 3

In Dunedin, Fla., Alex Verdugo and J.D. Martinez hit back-to-back homers during a five-run first inning, Garrett Richards won his fourth straight decision and Boston beat Toronto.

Kiké Hernández and Christian Vázquez also went deep for the Red Sox, who are 13-6 on the road. Boston has out-homered its opponents 57-32.

Toronto, which lost for only the second time in eight games, got a two-run homer from Marcus Semien. A victory would have moved the Blue Jays past Boston into first place in the AL East.

Verdugo hit a two-run drive and Martinez ended a 12-game homerless drought with an opposite-field shot as the first five batters reached safely against Ross Stripling (0-2). Bobby Dalbec also drove in a run with a double.

Richards (4-2) allowed two runs over 6 2/3 innings. He induced three double-play grounders.

## Royals 6, Brewers 4

In Kansas City, Mo., Jorge Soler hit a slump-busting homer to tie the game, Nicky Lopez bunted home the go-ahead run, and Kansas City used a late rally against Milwaukee's bullpen to win.

Scott Barlow (2-1) got the final two outs of the seventh inning, Greg Holland worked the eighth and Josh Staumont coughed up a run in the ninth before striking out Omar Narvaez looking with two runners aboard for his fifth save.

The two-game sweep gave Kansas City its first series win over the Brewers since June 2015.

The Royals had managed just two hits off Corbin Burnes when the Brewers ace left leading 3-2 after six innings. Soler was the first batter of the seventh and promptly hammered the second pitch from J.P. Feyereisen (0-2) to end his 0-for-12 skid.



# IOC offers Tokyo medical help amid call for cancellation

**TOKYO (AP)**—Confronted in Japan with some of the strongest medical-community opposition yet to the Tokyo Olympics, IOC President Thomas Bach offered Wednesday to have added medical personnel available to help out when the games open in just over nine weeks.

Bach gave few details, speaking remotely at the opening of three days of meetings between the International Olympic Committee and local organizers. He said the help would come from various national Olympic committees and be available in the Olympic village and sports venues.

In his 12-minute address, Bach attempted to assure the Japanese public and athletes coming to Tokyo that the IOC will hold “safe and secure” Olympics in the midst of the pandemic.

“For obvious reasons we cannot give them (athletes) every detail yet, but the most important principle is very clear: the Olympic Village is a safe place and the Olympic and Paralympic Games will be organized in



In this May 17, 2021, file photo, demonstrators protest against the Tokyo 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

a safe way,” Bach said.

Bach said he anticipated more than 80% of those staying in the Olympic Village would be vaccinated. Reports locally say that Japan’s Olympic delegation will begin getting vaccinated in June.

Between 1-2% of Japanese are fully vaccinated, and its unlikely that even the elderly

population will be fully vaccinated before the Olympics end on Aug. 8.

Bach appeared to be responding to one of the strongest demands so far to call off the postponed Olympics.

The 6,000-member Tokyo Medical Practitioners’ Association called for the Olympics to be canceled in a

letter sent last week to Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike, Olympic Minister Tamayo Marukawa, and Seiko Hashimoto, the head of the organizing committee.

The letter was made public this week on the group’s website.

“We believe the correct choice is to the cancel an event that has the possibility

of increasing the numbers of infected people and deaths,” the letter said.

“Viruses are spread by people’s movements. Japan will

hold a heavy responsibility if the Olympics and Paralympics work to worsen the pandemic, increasing the number of those who must suffer and die.”

## SCC Scholarship Golf Tourney maxed out

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce’s 2021 Scholarship Golf Tournament set for this weekend is officially maxed out.

According to Lee Tenorio, Chamber executive director, as of yesterday, the event was completely maxed out at 144 registered golfers.

The Chamber’s Two-Man Scramble Scholarship Golf Tournament is set for this Saturday, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course with show time at 6am and a shotgun to start at 7am.

With the ongoing pandemic, the Chamber has implemented COVID-19 procedures to ensure the safety of golfers, which includes issuing pre-tournament registration packets to alleviate crowding the morning of the tournament.

The annual fundraising

event provides financial support for the Saipan Chamber Scholarship Program, which awards local students seeking higher education to better contribute to our community.

Men and women of different skill levels will have a chance at amazing cash prizes with first place winners to earn \$800, second place \$650, and third place at \$500 for two categories; Team Gross and Team Double Peoria.

In addition, hole-in-one prizes include \$5,000 from McDonald’s of Saipan, a 2021 Toyota Highlander from Atkins Kroll Saipan, a \$10,000 Cash Prize from United Equipment Rental, and a 2021 Kia Seltos from Joeten Motor Company, Inc.

Tickets for amazing raffle prizes are available for purchase during registration and throughout the tournament.

## MVA encourages everyone to join the Walk for Tourism

By **CODY RACE**  
cody.race111@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

The tourism industry has had a tough time since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020. With vaccination rates rising and people starting to look for vacation destinations once again, the Marianas Visitors Authority is eager to get a head start on promoting tourism to Saipan and the CNMI, with the islands hoping to re-open to tourists in June or July.

As May is CNMI Tourism Month, they are encouraging awareness of the upcoming return of Saipan’s largest industry. As part of this month’s promotional events, the MVA is putting on a walk-a-thon this weekend.

The Walk for Tourism is taking place tomorrow morning, May 22. The walk will start and end from the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion along Beach Road, right across from the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Registration opens at 6am, and the 5-kilometer walk will start an hour after that, at 7am. This walk-a-thon has no entry fee, so everyone is encouraged to come down and join in.

To add a bit of competitive fun, there is also a costume contest! Participants can show up to walk in their best tourist costumes, and the three best costumed walkers will receive cash prizes of \$100 for first, \$75 for second, and \$50 for third. Costumes are judged on

creativity, originality, effort, and theme.

In addition to the costume contest, the first 100 registrants will receive a free Tourism Month T-shirt, so be up early!

Jack Aranda of the MVA hopes to have a good turnout this weekend. “We encourage the people to come and join this walk-a-thon, as it’s a good start for tourism. We may not have flights, but we do want to do something locally, to keep everything flowing.”

## PAIRE

From Page 24

their favor after scoring his goal in the 51st minute, bringing Paire up 2-1. Seo followed up with another goal in the 57th minute to bring Paire up to a 2-point advantage, 3-1.

Xu managed to land another goal in the 61st minute in an attempt to retake the lead but Singh secured the win for Paire in the 63rd minute with the game’s final goal.

Meanwhile, TanHoldings

remains at the top of the standings with a win-loss record of 9-0 with 1 draw after defeating NMI U18 B with a 4-3 victory.

TanHoldings’ Michiteru Mita and Mark Esalan teamed up with two goals each to bring their team to victory last Friday.

Mita took the lead for TanHoldings with one goal in the 12th minute, followed by his second goal in the 31st minute. Esalan followed up with a goal in the 36th minute to bring TanHoldings to a three-point advantage, 3-0.

NMI U18 A’s Kaden

Church landed his first goal in the 38th minute in an attempt to turn the tables but another goal from Esalan in the 56th minute made it a challenge.

Church landed another goal in the 59th minute followed by a goal from Garrett Weaver in the 60th minute but their efforts fell short.

MP United still remains the division’s No. 4 team after beating Old B Bank last weekend, 3-0.

MP United didn’t give its foe a chance behind Nick Holt who led the way with one goal

in the 3rd minute followed by a goal in the 49th minute by Bada Lee, finally, Sunjoon Tenorio delivered the final goal in the 65th minute.

NMI U18 A was demoted to No. 3 after its draw against Kanoa last Sunday, 1-1.

NMI’s Taka Borja took the lead in the 72nd minute but Jhoey Noble rained on their parade after scoring a goal in the 78th minute to close the game out in a tie.

In Division B, Matansa took a 2-1 victory over Bangladesh FC.

## CHAVEZ

From Page 24

events. Cabrera topped the 3,000m run, coming out first with a time of 13:07, and grabbed her second gold medal in the 1,500m after crossing the finish line first with a time of 5:46:3.

Meanwhile in the boys 18U division, Tang was hailed the MVP with a total of 54 points for gaining gold medals in the 400m, 200m, and 100m events.

The Torch Bearer bested the competition in the 400m event with a time of 56:23,

then again in the 200m event, making it to the finish line at 25:10. He added a third gold medal to his collection when he finished first in the 100m with a time of 12:12.

Hall took home the MVP award in the boys 14U division with a grand total of 44 points for winning a gold medal in the 200m event with a time of 26:14. On top of that, he earned a silver medal in the 400m event with a time of 1:04:27.

Also earning MVP awards in the elementary level of the Athletics Championships were Bea-

trice Gross and Jude Rayphand from SIS, Ysabella Lenteja from Tinian Elementary School, and Moshe Sikkell and Aiden Camacho from Brilliant Star School

The Geckos prevailed in the girls and boys 9U division with Gross and Rayphand earning the MVP awards for a total score of 54 each.

Lenteja brought home the honor of MVP for the girls 12U division after accumulating a total of 54 points.

Tied for MVP in the boys 12U division were Sikkell and Camacho who each earned 70 points.

According to PSS Athletics program director Nick Gross, medals have officially arrived on-island and plans for distribution are underway.

“As soon as I get them all sorted based on the final results I’ll send a message with the plan for dispersing to each team, elementary, middle, and high school. Thank you all for your continued support, assistance, and patience. The future burns brightly and I look forward to SY21-22 Athletic Programs and the next edition of the PSS/McDonald’s Athletics Championships,” he said.

## NMIFA

From Page 24

ing against them. Our team grew more and more confident and found their chemistry by the final game,” Ruszala said.

## Gradual, safe return to play

Meanwhile, Mita said they plan to gradually resume youth leagues and reiterates on doing it according to safety guidelines set by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Governor’s COVID-19 Task Force. “Our first priority is the players’ health and safety. After the AFC Grassroots Foot-

ball Day, we plan to have a summer youth league to prepare for fall season and provide more game opportunities for young players,” Mita said.

“Football equals game. Players learn from games. Without game environment, players cannot improve. I hope more players come back to the game and a lot of parents and supporters come to watch the matches,” he added.

When NMIFA resumed action at the pitch early this year, it only had the M-League and the Dove Women’s Spring League 2021 with mostly adults and several U14 and U19 players competing.





LeBron's 3 lifts Lakers over Warriors in West play-in game

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

IOC offers Tokyo medical help amid call for cancellation

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24 FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Paire moves up the ranking

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**P**aire Football Club moved up in the standings of Division A of the M-League Spring 2021 season after beating The One, 4-2, at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

After its match last Sunday against The One, Paire managed to advance from No. 3 in the overall standings, to No. 2 with a win-loss record of 7-3. Paire replaced former Top 2 NMI U18 A who stands at 5-0 with 5 draws.

During its match against The One, Paire's Jeff Seo led the way with his two goals, with help from Ajani Burrell and



Yogi Singh who contributed one goal each.

Last Sunday, The One took the lead behind Ming Guang Xu who made one of his two goals in the 25th minute, but Seo brought the game to a draw after scoring one of his two goals in the 45th minute.

Burrell turned the tables in

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Paire's Ajani Burrell goes for a shot during their Division A match of the M-League Spring 2021 season.

## NMIFA joins resumption of AFC Grassroots Football Day

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The Asian Football Confederation Grassroots Football Day returned this year with the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association among the 41 AFC-member associations that participated in the event held over the weekend.

NMIFA held matches in the U8 and U10 age groups (4x4 format) and U12 (5x5) in the afternoon at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville, bringing the total games played to 52 (20-minute match). The island's U8, U10, and U12 players were part of the more than 200,000 children that celebrated the resumption of the AFC Grassroots Football Day. The program was shelved last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year, 12 teams joined the U12 event with TanHoldings Betde 1, Kanoa 1, Southern United 1, Paire, MP United 1, and Shirley's A placed in Group A. Group B had TanHoldings Betde 2, Kanoa 2, Southern United 2, Matansa, MP United 2, and Shirley's B. Shirley's also had two teams in the U8 age group and played against Kanoa, MP United Typhoon, and Paire Eagles. Paire field-

ed one team in the U18 division and were joined by TanHoldings Betde, Kanoa 1 and 2, and Shirley's.

"It was great to see young players back to our field. I'm very happy that finally these age groups can enjoy the game. Usually, we organize a festival format for the AFC Grassroots Football Day, but our technical team considered these age categories had not played game for long time due to pandemic, so we decided to provide as many games to the kids," NMIFA technical director Michiteru Mita said.

He added that NMIFA utilized the AFC Grassroots



Football Day to motivate children to return to the pitch safely by following guidelines from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force. Mita thanked the coaches and NMIFA-member clubs for organizing teams and helping them ensure the safe conduct of the event.

Kathy Ruzsala, who coached one of the Paire teams, said their players really looked forward to the resumption of soccer activities at the NMISTC.

"The kids absolutely loved it despite the heat. They enjoyed seeing their friends that played in the other teams and even looked forward to play-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Participants in the Asian Football Confederation Grassroots Football Day battle for possession during their game last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville

## Chavez, 3 others named MVPs

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
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REPORTER



Mount Carmel School's Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez, Grace Christian School's Jasper Hall, Saipan International School's Tiana Cabrera, and Agape Christian School's Eason Tang were crowned this season's most valuable players for the 2021 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships that concluded last weekend at the Oleai Track and Field.

The Lady Knight gained the season's MVP award for the girls 14U division with the highest accumulated score for topping all her championship events. Chavez managed a total score of 70 points for dominating the 3,000m, 1,500m, 800m, 400m, and 200m events.

In the 3,000m course, Chavez finished with a time of 13:15, followed by a time of 5:50:43 in the 1,500m race. The Lady Knight moved on to conquer the 800m with a time of 2:52:14, the 400m event at 1:06:64, and finally the 200m race with a time of 29:46.

For the girls 18U division, Cabrera gained the MVP award with a total score of 48 points after gaining gold medals in the 3,000m and 1,500m

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Chavez



Cabrera



Hall



Eason